The Journal of Historical Review

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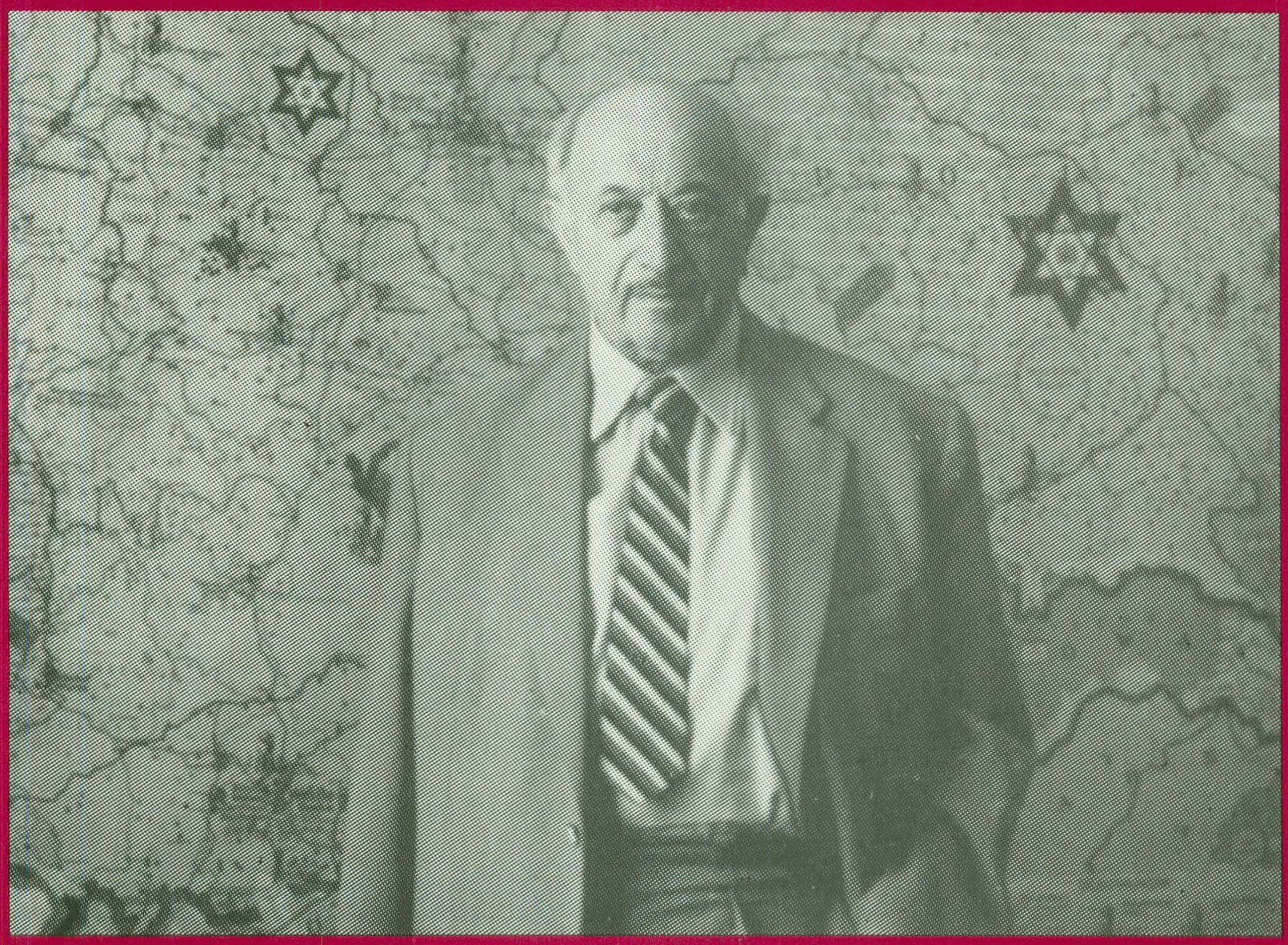

The Simon Wiesenthal Center

Mark Weber

Simon Wiesenthal: Fraudulent 'Nazi Hunter'

The Liberation of the Camps: Facts vs. Lies

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The Institute's Internet Impact

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Who Bombs Children?

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Some Lessons After Fifty Years

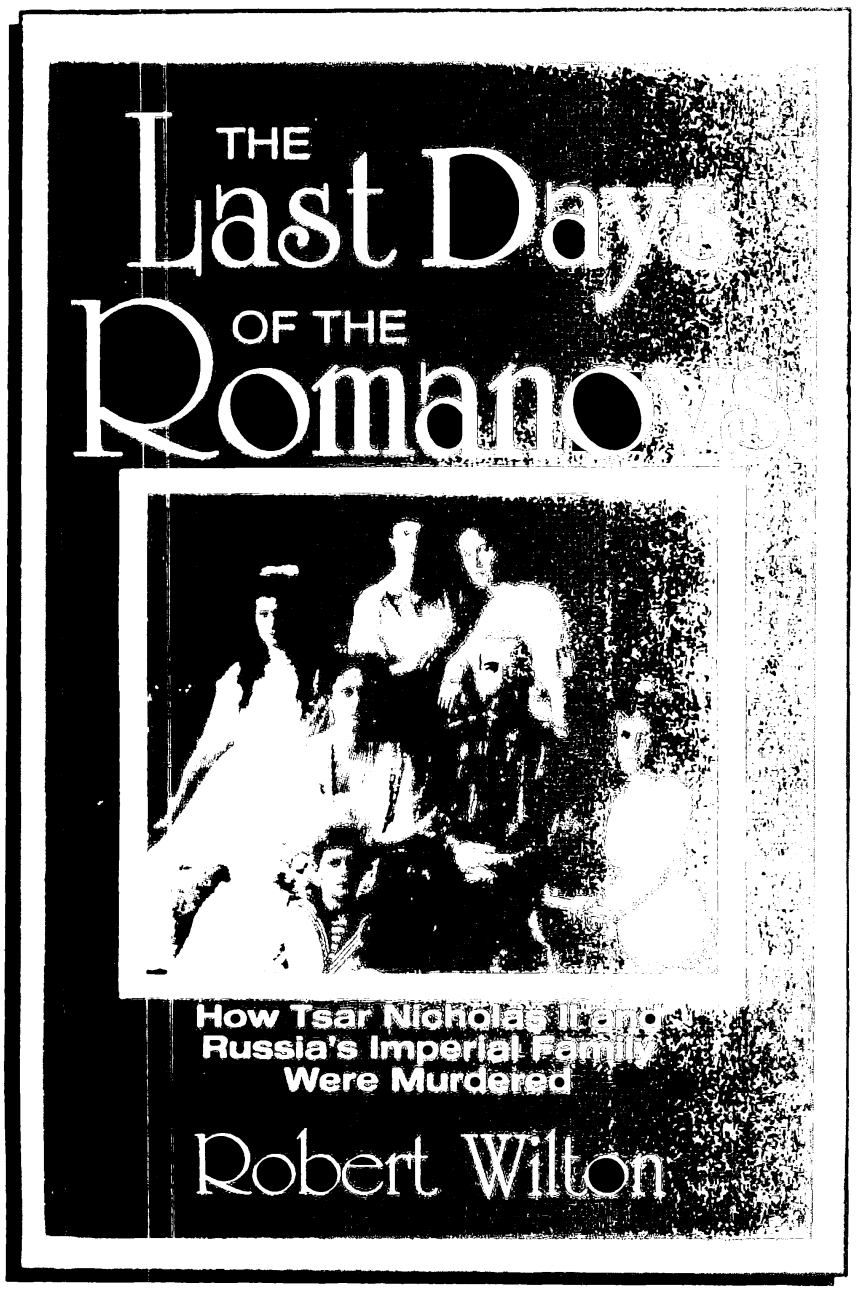
Joseph Sobran

— And More —

WHO REALLY KILLED THE ROMANOVS. . . AND WHY?

Today, 75 Years After the Brutal Murders, A Long-Suppressed Classic Gives the Shocking Answers

WHEN THE NEWS OF THE COLD-BLOODED MASSACRE of Tsar Nicholas II, his wife Alexandra, and their five children reached the outside world, decent people were horrified. But the true, complete story of the murders was suppressed from the outset—not only by the Red regime, but by *powerful forces operating at the nerve centers of the Western nations*. Nevertheless, one intrepid journalist, Robert Wilton, longtime Russia correspondent of the London *Times*, dared to brave the blackout. An on-the-scene participant in the White Russian investigation of the crime, Wilton brought the first documentary evidence of the *real killers, and their actual motives*, to the West.



A SKELETON KEY TO THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SOVIET SLAUGHTERHOUSE

Wilton's book, ***The Last Days of the Romanovs***, based on the evidence gathered by Russian investigative magistrate Nikolai Sokolov, was published in France, England, and America at the beginning of the 1920's—but it soon vanished from the bookstores and almost all library shelves, and was ignored in later "approved" histories. The most explosive secret of Wilton's book—*the role that racial revenge played in the slaughter of the Romanovs*—had to be concealed. And it continued to be concealed for decades—as the same motive claimed the lives of millions of Christian Russians, Ukrainians, Balts, and other helpless victims of the Red cabal.

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THE LAST DAYS OF THE ROMANOVS by Robert Wilton
Quality Softcover · 210 pages · Photos · Index · $6.95
Institute for Historical Review · ISBN 0-939484-47-1

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Appropriate manuscripts are welcomed by the Editor. They should be double-spaced and accompanied by return postage. Especially welcome are submissions on IBM-compatible or Macintosh computer diskette. Address all correspondence to P.O. Box 2739, Newport Beach, CA 92659. E-mail to: greg.ihr@kaiwan.com.

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An Overview

The Simon Wiesenthal Center

MARK WEBER

Arriving in Los Angeles in 1977 with a $500,000 gift from Canadian Jewish businessman Samuel Belzberg, Rabbi Marvin Hier lost no time launching his dream project: the Simon Wiesenthal *Center.* In the years that followed, Hier succeeded in building the Center, named after the well-known "Nazi hunter," into one of the world's most influential Jewish organizations.

"Now second in membership only to B'nai B'rith International with 380,000 members," noted the *Los Angeles Times* in 1990, "the Simon Wiesenthal Center at times rivals the venerable American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League and the World Jewish Congress for its impact and access to world leaders."[1] Today, five years later, the Center's power and impact are, if anything, even more formidable.

Fear Mongering and 'Holocaustomania'

Hier achieved all this, and so quickly, because he hit on a winning formula for raising vast sums of money from American Jews: highly emotional appeals to raw fear with sensationalistic exploitation of the Holocaust story.

Hier and his colleagues never cease harping on the danger of anti-Semitism (or, as the Center spells it "antisemitism"). In its wide range of propaganda materials, including videotapes and fund-raising mailings, and especially in its glossy magazine, *Response*, the Center conjures up a paranoid fantasy world in which a sinister international network of neo-Nazis, Islamic extremists and other anti-Jewish forces of "hate" are on the march everywhere, plotting a murderous new "Final Solution" of all Jews.

The Center projects a paradoxical image of American Jewry: Fabulously wealthy and influential, but simultaneously threatened with physical extermination. Only the eternally vigilant Simon Wiesenthal Center, its publications suggest, protects Jews against a dangerous worldwide "hate" conspiracy and a new "Final Solution."

"In America," writes *New York Times* Deputy Media Editor Judith Miller in her 1990 book, *One, by One, by One*, "the lowest common denominator often sets the agenda. The Holocaust is not immune from this tendency."[2]

"Marvin Hier and the Center will always cry anti-Semitism," a renowned scholar told two *Los Angeles Times* writers, who summed up: "To get people to pay attention to his battle against anti-Semitism, Hier refuses to let anyone forget the Holocaust even for a minute."[3]

As even the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B'nai B'rith has acknowledged, though, the Wiesenthal Center makes "inaccurate" and "exaggerated claims" about anti-Semitism to raise money. In a 1984 internal memorandum, ADL official Justin Finger cited a Center fund-raising letter that is "replete with factual misstatements and exaggerations" about anti-Jewish sentiment in the United States and Europe.[4]

The 1991 Gulf War provided an ideal opportunity for the Simon Wiesenthal Center to trot out sensational new propaganda lies. According to a "shocking revelation" in the Spring 1991 issue of *Response*, German firms were producing Zyklon B gas in Iraq, "the chemical used by the Germans to murder millions of Jews during the Nazi Holocaust."[5]

Iranian prisoners of war, the Center's slick magazine went on, were being killed with Zyklon B "in gas chambers specially designed for the Iraqis by the German company Rhema Labortechnik." Recycling a familiar Second World War propaganda theme, *Response* continued: "An eyewitness reported the [Iraqi] gas chambers were tiled to look like operating rooms, with a separated observation room for each gas chamber with reinforced glass visibility."

In fanning the flames of what Jewish American historian Alfred Lilienthal calls "Holocaustomania," the Wiesenthal Center has no peer. "Rabbi Hier and the Wiesenthal Center are, in my opinion, the most extreme of those who utilize the Holocaust," said the director of Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust center in 1988. "The Jewish people does many vulgar things," he went on, "but the Wiesenthal Center [has] raised it to a complete level: The optimum use of sensitive issues in order to raise money ..."[6]

"The enormous success of the Simon Wiesenthal Center," says author Judith Miller, "has given new meaning to what was once a macabre in-house joke ... 'There is no business like *Shoah* business'." ("*Shoah*" is Hebrew for Holocaust).[7] "It's a sad fact," adds the Center's chief financial backer, Canadian-Jewish financier Samuel Belzberg, "that Israel and Jewish education and all the other familiar buzzwords no longer serve to rally Jews behind the community. The Holocaust, though, works every time."[8]

In 1989, for example, the Center pulled in some $15 million in contributions.[9] Marvin Hier is generously compensated for his work. In 1994 his annual pay was $225,000 (benefits included). At least six other Center officials were paid more than $100,000 each.[10]

Originally from New York's Lower East Side, Hier possesses no academic credentials beyond his *yeshiva* (rabbinical school) certification. But he was not ashamed to appoint himself "Dean" of the Wiesenthal Center and of the Center-affiliated Yeshiva University.[11]

Hier has proven to be a tremendous boost to Simon Wiesenthal and his international image. "Before meeting up with Hier," said one Center insider, "Simon was nickel and diming it in Vienna. He couldn't even pay his phone bills."[12]

A Jewish Mission

While the Center makes a feeble pretense of concern for all humanity, its real agenda is narrowly, even chauvinistically Jewish. Hier frankly calls his Center a "full-fledged Jewish defense agency,"[13] and Center publications skillfully play to Jewish fears, concerns and sensitivities.

"... The phenomenal growth of the Wiesenthal Center suggests that the haunting memory of the Holocaust is, for better or worse, what makes millions of Jews feel like Jews," says Baltimore *Jewish Times* editor Gary Rosenblatt.[14]

Rival organizations that compete with the Center for money from the Jewish community privately resent Hier's brash, "anything goes" tactics.

Hier "has become a self-appointed spokesman for American Jewish interests," complains Leon Wieseltier, Jewish literary editor of *The New Republic*. Hier's linkage of the Holocaust and American politics has "vulgarized" both, adds Wieseltier. "He and his operation have no right to desecrate the memory of millions of dead Jews by glibly associating their memory with the Center's politics."[15]

"Critics of the Simon Wiesenthal Center," notes Judith Miller in *One, by One, by One*, "have also complained about the use of the Holocaust to justify lobbying for Jewish interests... 'You must do this for the Jews because there was a Holocaust'."[16]

Hier and his organization ceaselessly promote

At a 1989 White House dinner, President George Bush talks as Wiesenthal Center founder Marvin Hier, right, greets Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Zionist and Israeli interests. "Another implicit message of the Wiesenthal Center is that the Holocaust helped to validate the state of Israel," writes Miller. "Remembering the Holocaust leads to staunch support of Israel."[17] Hier has had a particularly close relationship with Israel's ultra-Zionist Likud party and hard line Israeli Prime Ministers Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir.[18] Although Hier and his Center demands dauntless pursuit and punishment of "Nazi war criminals," Hier hypocritically ignores the well-documented records of Begin and Shamir as Zionist terrorists.[19]

No Trust for Non-Jews

A recurring Wiesenthal Center theme is that non-Jews are never entirely trustworthy. If "it" could happen in cultured Germany, Hier's Center never ceases to suggest, "it" can happen anywhere. Anything less than fawning solicitude for Israeli and Jewish concerns, the Center implies, all but inevitably leads to shoving Jews into gas chambers. Hier's "message is that Jews are never safe, that anti-Semitism is pandemic, occurring everywhere and in various degrees of virulence," the *Los Angeles Times* sums up.[20]

"We're like the baseball hitter who is up to bat with two strikes against him," says Hier. "That's the proper attitude for Jews. We shouldn't be going around saying: it cannot happen again ... We Americans have never been tested."[21] Regarding a Wiesenthal Center exhibit on the Holocaust, the monthly magazine of the American Jewish Committee remarked: "The message was that Jews have

enemies, murderous enemies, and should look out."[22]

In Hier's view, the non-Jewish world — and especially European Christians — bears a collective guilt for what the Holocaust lobby insists is the most terrible crime in history. In a 1995 *Los Angeles Times* opinion piece, for example, Hier took aim at Christian leaders during the Second World War, chastising the "prelates — from Pope Pius XII down — who at best looked the other way, protected their own, were bystanders rather than activists and sometimes even assisted the Nazis in carrying out their Final Solution."[23]

For from promoting "tolerance," says Dr. Frank Knopfelmacher, a leading Australian Jewish scholar, the Wiesenthal Center actually foments "ethnic hatred." Australia government officials, added Knopfelmacher, should have "banned the members of the Simon Wiesenthal Center from entering Australia and should have deported those who were here."[24]

Phenomenal Clout

For an organization founded just 16 years ago, the Wiesenthal Center wields phenomenal political and financial power. "Hier has accrued unprecedented clout in the Legislature, on Capitol Hill, in the city's boardrooms and even in Hollywood," noted the *Los Angeles Times Magazine* in a 1990 profile article.[25]

Among the many prominent and wealthy individuals who have given public support to the Simon Wiesenthal Center have been President Ronald Reagan, President George Bush, Senator Dianne Feinstein (and her investment banker husband Richard Blum), entertainers Frank Sinatra and Elizabeth Taylor, columnist George Will, Mortimer B. Zuckerman (publisher of *US News & World Report* and the *Atlantic Monthly*), television journalist Barbara Walters, several members of the moneyed Belzberg family, Alan Greenberg (chairman of the investment firm of Bear Stearns), and New York financiers Nelson Peltz, Ronald Perelman and Ivan Boesky. (Boesky, a member of the Center's board of directors, was later found guilty of large-scale illegal stock dealing).

"Genocide," an 88-minute Holocaust motion picture coproduced by the Wiesenthal Center, was awarded the 1982 Academy Award for "Best Documentary Feature." Accepting the Award was "Dean" Hier, the only Orthodox rabbi ever to win an Oscar.[26] A more recent expression of the Center's close Hollywood ties is the 1995 HBO made-for-television motion picture, "The Infiltrator," a highly flattering portrayal of the Center and its work (in which IHR Director Mark Weber is smeared, by name, as a "big time fascist").

Political Pull and Public Money

Such is the political clout wielded by the Center that California lawmakers recently voted to give it a *second* $5 million grant of state taxpayers' funds. (The first was in 1985.) This money, allocated for the Center's "Museum of Tolerance," came from funds normally reserved for California public schools. Backing this extraordinary grant were prominent politicians of both parties, including California Governor Pete Wilson.[27]

At a time of belt-tightening across the board, the Wiesenthal Center can count on "special treatment" for state lawmakers. One cautiously indignant Californian echoed the sentiment of many others in a letter published in the leading Los Angeles daily newspaper:[28]

> Giving the Wiesenthal Centers another $5 million in state tax dollars when clinics and hospitals are closing, local schools' teaching budgets are being cut and public libraries fight to keep open on even a limited basis is difficult to justify.

Financially strapped education leaders and spokesmen for hard-pressed public interest groups were understandably outraged. Responding to Hier's claims of school children visits to his "Museum of Tolerance," a lobbyist for the California Teachers Association sarcastically commented: "70,000 kids might go McDonald's every day, but we don't pick up their lunch tab."

In addition, the Center has received $5 million

Simon Wiesenthal, standing, acknowledges applause from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, lower left, and others at the November 1989 "National Tribute Dinner" of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles.

More than a thousand persons were on hand for the presentation of "service awards for Holocaust remembrance" to 14 actors, writers, producers and directors who had worked on Holocaust films and teleplays. In his keynote speech, Shamir praised America's motion picture industry for producing Holocaust films.

in *federal* funds, through legislation sponsored by California Congressman Henry Waxman.[29]

The Center's ties with California Governor Wilson could hardly be closer. A senior political advisor to Wilson is a member of the Wiesenthal Center's board of directors. To show its appreciation, last year the Center awarded Wilson its "National Leadership Award." Among those attending the award dinner was Michael Fuchs, chairman of Home Box Office (HBO) and a member of the Wiesenthal Center's board of directors.[30]

On at least one occasion, Marvin Hier used his influence to help a favored politician. In April 1992 he appealed for money on behalf of Mel Levine, a US Congressman and Democratic candidate for US Senator from California. In a letter sent out to the Wiesenthal Center mailing list, Hier attacked Patrick Buchanan and praised Levine for his unwavering support for Israel and his "sense of history." "*Never Again* must be America's slogan," wrote Hier. "And Mel Levine, as US Senator from California, will be an important force for a farsighted American foreign policy." (In spite of Hier's appeal, Levine failed to win the Democratic party nomination for US Senate.)

In 1988 Hier and the Center honored Simon Wiesenthal at two gala dinners, one in Los Angeles and another in New York City. At the California gathering, Hier singled out President Reagan for special commendation, and at the New York dinner, which netted $700,000, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl delivered the main tribute to Wiesenthal.[31]

A Wiesenthal Center "National Tribute Dinner" in November 1989 provided another opportunity to manifest the organization's wide-ranging influence.[32] Speakers included Simon Wiesenthal, Israeli premier Yitzhak Shamir, and Center Chairman Samuel Belzberg, with awards to prominent media personalities, including MCA President Sidney Sheinberg and actor Ben Kingsley.

"Dinner chairman" Robert Maxwell was unable to attend the event, but the Jewish publishing baron's daughter was on hand to deliver his passionate speech. (It was only after his mysterious death in October 1991, and a state funeral in Israel, that Maxwell's record as perhaps the greatest swindler in history came to light. He had stolen at least $1.65 *billion* from the public companies he controlled.)

American newspapers and magazines treat the Wiesenthal Center with uncritical deference, accepting at face value its bogus pretense to be an impartial source of reliable information. The *Los Angeles Times* — the most influential newspaper in the western United States — routinely provides space for lengthy "op ed" opinion essays by Wiesenthal Center spokesmen.

Earlier this year the Center flexed its muscles with a stunning display of global power. It acted

RESPONSE

THE WIESENTHAL CENTER WORLD REPORT

SPRING, 1991
Vol. 12, No. 1
Circul. 381,065

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Dear Friends:

As you can see, this issue of *Response* is almost entirely devoted to the crisis and war in the Gulf, and all of its implications.

The scope of German involvement in Iraq's war machine (cover story), an exclusive expose on Saddam's friendly American bankers (BNL, page 5), and an extensive review of the worldwide fallout from the Gulf War – from Arab support for Saddam, to Europe's Jews galvanizing support for Israel – are presented.

The Center's successful interventions in Geneva (on Palestinian Red Crescent Holocaust denial, page 12) and in blocking the reprinting of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* in a leading Soviet publication (page 12) are also highlighted. Those of you in the medical field should take special note of the disturbing story on Baxter International (page 10).

The Center wishes to thank Dr. Moshe Dann, who has shared with us (page 4) the pain so many parents in Israel feel today as they try to reassure their children and themselves that "Yee'yeh Tov" – it will all work out for the good.

Lastly, we apologize for delaying the publishing of the list of our Fellows and Founders, as well as for the abbreviated presentation of other usual features.

Sincerely,

Abraham Cooper

Rabbi Abraham Cooper
Editor-in-Chief

Cover photo courtesy Reuters/Bettmann; Inset photo, Simon Wiesenthal Center.

DESERT STORM

Shocking Revelation:
German Firms Produce Zyklon B in Iraq

True to the legacy of their Nazi-era predecessors, the German business community has sought to absolve itself of its share of blame in the current Middle East disaster. "We did not knowingly supply Iraq with weapons of mass destruction - we violated no law - we were just filling orders..."

The facts, as first exposed by the Wiesenthal Center's *Poison Gas Connection* report, belie the absurdity and moral bankruptcy of such self-deluding assertions. Last fall, the Center named 86 German firms who rushed in the 1980s to empower Saddam Hussein. Today, their technical know-how has enhanced the reach of Soviet-supplied Scud missiles, which rain down death and destruction on Israel; German expertise has provided Saddam with intermediate range rockets and the Third World's first Fuel Air Bomb; and German-supplied gas once again threatens innocent Jewish men, women and children. German ingenuity will also surely help to prolong the agony of war by having provided the "Butcher of Baghdad" with a futuristic bomb shelter located under his presidential palace.

Even more ominous is the report that Iraq has developed a new potent gas which actually contains Zyklon B – the chemical used by the Germans to murder millions of Jews during the Nazi Holocaust. The French newspaper, *Liberation*, and a German documentary entitled "Made in Germany: Saddam Hussein's Helpers," report that this gas, and the nerve gas, Tabun, were tested on Iranian POWs in gas chambers specially designed for the Iraqis by the German company Rhema-Labortechnik (see cover photo of gas chamber prototype).

Courtesy Chicago Sun Times

German Gas Chambers: Nightmare Revisited

Subcontracted by the notorious Karl Kolb company that provided Baghdad with much of its chemical needs in the '80s, the Hofheim-based Rhema Company built and installed two so-called "Inhalation Systems for Toxological Research", i.e., gas chambers.

An eyewitness reported the gas chambers were tiled to look like operating rooms, with a separated observation room for each gas chamber with reinforced glass visibility. First experiments used dogs, then donkeys, and reportedly Iranian POWs. In 1983, German engineer Hans Doerflein asked his Iraqi counterparts, "What are you making here?" The answer: "We're making products against pests, against bedbugs, fleas, locusts, Persians, and Israelis..."

With such a record for the zealous pursuit of deutschmarks, is it any surprise that among the 700 firms suspected of breaking the U.N.-sponsored boycott imposed on Iraq after the invasion of Kuwait, are over 100 German firms? One company, the Cologne-based Strabag Company, violated the embargo 70 times, and *Der Spiegel* reports that the Anlagen Bau Contor company had developed a complete missile (including Scuds) test facility for Iraq. Other companies from throughout Europe, the United States, South America and Asia are also being scrutinized. And recent charges in the Swiss Senate point to violations of the arms embargo by at least 11 Swiss firms.

"We're making products against pests, against bedbugs, fleas, locusts, Persians, and Israelis..."

War propaganda. During the Gulf War the Simon Wiesenthal Center — in the Spring 1991 issue of its widely-circulated magazine, *Response* — broadcast the lie that Iraq was killing Iranian prisoners of war "in gas chambers specially designed for the Iraqis" by a German firm, using German-manufactured Zyklon B gas.

quickly and decisively after a major Japanese monthly magazine, *Marco Polo*, published a ten-page article in its February 1995 issue that presented credible evidence to show that there were no execution gas chambers in wartime German concentration camps, and that many other Holocaust stories are exaggerated or untrue.[33]

While recklessly misrepresenting the article's content, the Wiesenthal Center promptly lashed out at the magazine and its publisher, and mounted an international boycott campaign to pressure major international corporations into withdrawing advertising. Quickly capitulating to the Center's campaign — which the Institute for Historical Review called "an arrogant expression of bigotry and intolerance" — the publisher took the astonishing step of shutting down *Marco Polo* magazine altogether. At a packed news conference in Tokyo, Wiesenthal Center "Associate Dean" Abraham Cooper accepted a craven public apology from the publishing company's president.

Attacking the IHR

In many ways, the Institute for Historical Review and the Simon Wiesenthal Center are antipodal adversaries. Not surprisingly, then, the Center has hit hard and often at the IHR.

In a frenzied fund-raising letter mailed out in 1985, for example, the Center cited *The Journal of Historical Review* as a source of special concern, warning that a goal of the *Journal* is to "undermine the legitimacy of the State of Israel." The letter ominously added:

> We must learn the names and location of all neo-Nazis and revisionist leaders in every state. We must both keep careful records of their activities and expose them to the public.

Wiesenthal Center official Aaron Breitbart castigated the IHR in an article published in the 1986 *Jewish Directory and Almanac*. "The jewel in the crown of revisionism," he wrote, "is the California-based Institute for Historical Review." Another widely-distributed Wiesenthal Center fund-raising letter signed by actor Glenn Ford included a furious and lengthy smear against the IHR and its *Journal*.

In a prominently featured "op ed" opinion essay published in April 1995 in a Sunday edition of the *Los Angeles Times*, Wiesenthal Center official Abraham Cooper warned:[34]

> With access to the Internet limitless, the scope of hate-group activities is rapidly expanding. The Institute for Historical Review, the leading voice of Holocaust denial in the United States, has set up a site on the World Wide Web portion of the Internet where its literature can be obtained free.

Nearly every issue of the Center's "World Report" magazine, *Response* (with a claimed 1995 circulation of 320,000) attacks the Institute and leading revisionist scholars. Contrary to the Center's bogus "tolerance," *Response* frequently gloats about legal repression of Holocaust revisionists in foreign countries. Typical is an article in the Summer 1992 issue, headlined "Holocaust Deniers on the March" and illustrated with a color photograph of French professor Robert Faurisson. Several items in the Winter 1992 issue take aim at the Institute, including one specifically devoted to the IHR's Eleventh Conference. Likewise, a snide and misleading article in the Fall–Winter 1994 *Response* reported on the Twelfth IHR Conference.

Glitzy 'Museum of Tolerance'

When the Wiesenthal Center opened the doors of its eight-story, $50 million "Museum of Tolerance" in 1993, American television, newspapers and magazines responded with an outpouring of flattering coverage. California Governor Wilson called the Museum a "treasure," and Los Angeles City Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky ascribed almost miraculous powers to it. "If every citizen of Los Angeles...will walk through the halls of this Museum and heed its lessons," he said, "then this city will have nothing to worry about."[35]

The Museum on Pico Boulevard in West Los Angeles — also called the *Beit Hashoah* in Hebrew ("House of the Holocaust") — draws 350,000 visitors a year, says Hier. This includes more than 70,000 public and private school children who are taken through the Museum yearly. "It's almost a second home to public schools," boasts Hier. "We want to keep them there."[36]

This is no ordinary museum. A slick, high-tech enterprise that "marries theme-park glitz with harrowing themes" (*Los Angeles Daily News*),[37] it presents a relentlessly Judeocentric version of history, packed with grotesque historical distortions and falsehoods. (A detailed look at the "Museum of Tolerance" will appear in a forthcoming *Journal* issue.)

Conclusion

The phenomenal growth and impact of the Simon Wiesenthal Center is a reflection of the predominant financial-political forces in American society today, and consequently of its prevailing cultural values and historical outlook. It is a barometer of Zionist-Jewish power and influence in the United States, of the hypocrisy and weakness of this country's political leadership, and of the quasi-religious role that the Holocaust story has come to play, not only in America but throughout the world.

Notes

1. J. Dart, "L.A. Rabbi's Organization Commands International Attention," *Los Angeles Times*, March 10, 1990.
2. Judith Miller, *One, by One, by One: Facing the Holocaust* (New York: Simon & Schuster/ Touchstone, 1990), p. 250.
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Simon Wiesenthal: Fraudulent 'Nazi Hunter'

Mark Weber

For more than 40 years, Simon Wiesenthal has been tracking hundreds of "Nazi criminals" from his "Jewish Documentation Center" in Vienna. For his work as the world's most prominent "Nazi hunter," he has been awarded several honorary degrees and numerous medals, including Germany's highest decoration. In a formal White House ceremony in August 1980, a teary-eyed President Carter presented him with a special gold medal awarded by the US Congress. President Reagan praised him in November 1988 as one of the "true heroes" of this century.

This living legend was portrayed in flattering terms by the late Laurence Oliver in the 1978 film fantasy "The Boys From Brazil," and by Ben Kingsley in the 1989 HBO made-for-television movie "Murderers Among Us: The Simon Wiesenthal Story." One of world's most prominent Holocaust organizations bears his name: the Simon Wiesenthal Center of Los Angeles.

Wiesenthal's reputation as a moral authority is undeserved. The man whom *The Washington Post* has called the "Holocaust's Avenging Angel"[1] has a little known but well-documented record of reckless disregard for truth. He has lied about his own wartime experiences, misrepresented his postwar "Nazi-hunting" achievements, and has spread vile falsehoods about alleged German atrocities.

Different Stories

Szymon (Simon) Wiesenthal was born on December 31, 1908, in Buczacz, a town in the province of Galicia (now Buchach in Ukraine) in what was then the eastern fringe of the Austro-Hungarian empire. His father was a prosperous wholesale sugar merchant.

In spite of all that has been written about him, just what Wiesenthal did during the war years under German occupation remains unclear. He has given conflicting stories in three separate accounts of his wartime activities. The first was given under oath during a two day interrogation session in May 1948 conducted by an official of the US Nuremberg war crimes commission.[2] The second is a summary of his life provided by Wiesenthal as part of a January 1949 "Application for Assistance" to the International Refugee Committee.[3] And the third account is given in his autobiography, *The Murderers Among Us*, first published in 1967.[4]

Soviet Engineer or Factory Mechanic?

In his 1948 interrogation, Wiesenthal declared that "between 1939 and 1941" he was a "Soviet chief engineer working in Lvov and Odessa."[5] Consistent with that, he stated in his 1949 declaration that from December 1939 to April 1940 he worked as an architect in the Black Sea port of Odessa. But according to his autobiography, he spent the period between mid-September 1939 and June 1941 in Soviet-ruled Lvov, where he worked "as a mechanic in a factory that produced bedsprings."[6]

'Relative Freedom'

After the Germans took control of Galicia province in June 1941, Wiesenthal was interned for a time in the Janowska concentration camp near Lvov, from where he was transferred a few months later to a camp affiliated with the repair works (OAW) in Lvov of the *Ostbahn* ("Eastern Railroad") of German-ruled Poland. Wiesenthal reported in his autobiography that he worked there "as a technician and draftsman," that he was rather well treated, and that his immediate superior, who was "secretly anti-Nazi," even permitted him to own two pistols. He had his own office in a "small wooden hut," and enjoyed "relative freedom and was permitted to walk all over the yards."[7]

Partisan Fighter?

The next segment of Wiesenthal's life — from October 1943 to June 1944 — is the most obscure, and his accounts of this period are contradictory. During his 1948 interrogation, Wiesenthal said that he fled from the Janowska camp in Lvov and joined a "partisan group which operated in the Tarnopol-Kamenopodolsk area."[8] He said that "I was a parti-

This is a revised and updated version of an article that first appeared in *The Journal of Historical Review*, Winter 1989–90 (Volume 9, number 4), pages 439–452.

san from October 6, 1943, until the middle of February 1944," and declared that his unit fought against Ukrainian forces, both of the SS "Galicia" division and of the independent UPA partisan force.[9]

Wiesenthal said that he held the rank of lieutenant and then major, and was responsible for building bunkers and fortification lines. Although he was not explicit, he suggested that this (supposed) partisan unit was part of the *Armia Ludowa* ("Peoples Army"), the Polish Communist military force established and controlled by the Soviets.[10]

He said that he and other partisans slipped into Lvov in February 1944, where they were "hidden by friends of the A.L. ['People's Army'] group." On June 13, 1944, his group was captured by the German Secret Field Police. (Although Jewish partisans caught in hiding were often shot, Wiesenthal reports that he was somehow spared.) Wiesenthal told much the same story in his 1949 statement. He said that he fled from internment in early October 1943 and then "fought against the Germans as a partisan in the forest" for eight months — from October 2, 1943, to March 1944. After that, he was "in hiding" in Lvov from March to June 1944.

Wiesenthal tells a totally different story in his 1967 autobiography. He reports there that after escaping from the *Ostbahn* Repair Works on Oct. 2, 1943, he lived in hiding in the houses of various friends until June 13, 1944, when he was discovered by Polish and German police and returned to a concentration camp. He makes no mention of any partisan membership or activity.[11]

According to both his 1948 interrogation and his 1967 autobiography, he tried to commit suicide on June 15, 1944, by cutting his wrists. Remarkably, though, he was saved from death by German SS doctors and recovered in an SS hospital.[12] He remained in the Lvov concentration camp "with double rations" for a time, and then, he reports in his autobiography, he was transferred to various work camps. He spent the remaining chaotic months, until the end of the war, in different camps until he was liberated from Mauthausen (in Austria) by American forces on May 5, 1945.[13]

Did Wiesenthal invent a past as a heroic wartime partisan? Or did he later try to suppress his record as a Communist fighter? Or is the true story altogether different — and too shameful to admit?

'Nazi Agent'?

Did Wiesenthal voluntarily work for his wartime oppressors? That's the accusation leveled by Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, himself of Jewish ancestry and leader for many years of his country's Socialist Party. During an interview with foreign journalists in 1975, Kreisky charged Wiesenthal with using "Mafia methods," rejected his pretense of

Simon Wiesenthal

"moral authority," and suggested that he was an agent for the German authorities. Some of his more pertinent remarks, which appeared in Austria's leading news magazine *Profil*, include:[14]

> I really know Mr. Wiesenthal only from secret reports, and they are bad, very nasty. I say this as Federal Chancellor ... And I say that Mr. Wiesenthal had a different relationship with the Gestapo than I did. Yes, and this can be proven. I can't say more [now]. Everything else, I'll say in court.
>
> My relationship with the Gestapo is unambiguous. I was their prisoner, their inmate, and I was interrogated. His relationship was a different one, I can say, and this will come out clearly. It's bad enough what I've already said here. But he can't clear himself by charging me with defaming his honor in the press, as he might wish. It's not that simple, because that would mean a big court case ... A man like this doesn't have the right to pretend to be a moral authority. That's what I say. He doesn't have

the right ...

Whether a man who, in my view, is an agent, yes, that's right, and who uses Mafia methods ... Such a man has to go ...

He is no gentleman, and I would say, to make this clear, so that he won't become a moral authority, because he is not ... He shouldn't pretend to be a moral authority ...

I say that Mr. Wiesenthal lived in that time in the Nazi sphere of influence without being persecuted. Right? And he lived openly without being persecuted, right? Is that clear? And you perhaps know, if you know what was going on, that no one could risk that.

He wasn't a "submarine" ... that is, submerged and in hiding, but instead, he was completely in the open without having to, well, ever risk persecution. I think that's enough. There were so many opportunities to be an *agent.* He didn't have to be a Gestapo agent. There were many other services.

In response to these damning words, Wiesenthal began efforts to bring a lawsuit against the Chancellor. Eventually, though, both Wiesenthal and Kreisky backed away from a major legal clash.

Mauthausen Myths

Before he became famous as a "Nazi hunter," he made a name for himself as a propagandist. In 1946 Wiesenthal published *KZ Mauthausen*, an 85-page work that consists mainly of his own amateurish sketches purporting to represent the horrors of the Mauthausen concentration camp. One drawing depicts three inmates who had been bound to posts and brutally put to death by the Germans.[15]

The sketch is completely phony. It was copied — with some minor alterations — from photographs that appeared in *Life* magazine in 1945, which graphically record the firing-squad execution in December 1944 of three German soldiers who had been caught operating as spies behind the lines during the "Battle of the Bulge."[16] The source of the Wiesenthal drawing is instantly obvious to anyone who compares it with the *Life* photos.[17]

The irresponsible character of this book is also shown by Wiesenthal's extensive citation therein of the supposed "death bed confession" of Mauthausen Commandant Franz Ziereis, according to which *four million* were gassed to death with carbon monoxide at the nearby Hartheim satellite camp.[18] This claim is totally absurd, and no serious Holocaust historian still accepts it.[19] Also according to the Ziereis "confession" cited by Wiesenthal, the Germans supposedly killed another *ten million* people in Poland, Lithuania and Latvia.[20] In fact, this fraudulent "confession" was obtained by torture.[21]

Years later, Wiesenthal was still lying about Mauthausen. In a 1983 interview with the daily newspaper *USA Today*, he said of his experience in Mauthausen: "I was one of 34 prisoners alive out of 150,000 who had been put there."[22] This is a blatant falsehood. The years have apparently not been kind to Wiesenthal's memory, because in his own autobiography he wrote that "almost 3,000 prisoners died in Mauthausen after the Americans liberated us on May 5, 1945."[23] Another former inmate, Evelyn Le Chene, reported in her standard work about Mauthausen that there were 64,000 inmates in the camp when it was liberated in May 1945.[24] And according to the *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, at least 212,000 inmates survived internment in the Mauthausen camp complex.[25]

After the war Wiesenthal worked for the US Office of Strategic Services (the forerunner of the CIA) and the US Army's Counter-Intelligence Corps (CIC). He was also vice chairman of the Jewish Central Committee in the US occupation zone of Austria.[26]

'Human Soap'

Wiesenthal has given circulation and credence to one of the most scurrilous Holocaust stories, the charge that the Germans manufactured soap from the corpses of murdered Jews. According to this tale, the letters "RIF" in bars of German-made soap allegedly stood for "Pure Jewish Fat" ("*Rein judisches Fett*"). In reality, the initials stood for "National Center for Industrial Fat Provisioning" ("*Reichstelle fur industrielle Fettversorgung*").[27]

Wiesenthal promoted the "human soap" legend in articles published in 1946 in the Austrian Jewish community paper *Der Neue Weg* ("The New Path"). In an article entitled "RIF," he wrote: "The terrible words 'transport for soap' were first heard at the end of 1942. It was in the [Polish] General Government, and the factory was in Galicia, in Belzec. From April 1942 until May 1943, 900,000 Jews were used as raw material in this factory." After the corpses were turned into various raw materials, Wiesenthal wrote, "The rest, the residual fat stuff, was used for soap production."

He continued: "After 1942 people in the General Government knew quite well what the RIF soap meant. The civilized world may not believe the joy with which the Nazis and their women in the General Government thought of this soap. In each piece of soap they saw a Jew who had been magically put there, and had thus been prevented from growing into a second Freud, Ehrlich or Einstein."[28]

In another imaginative article published in 1946 entitled "Belzec Soap Factory," Wiesenthal alleged that masses of Jews were exterminated in electrocution showers:[29]

The people, pressed together and driven on by

the SS, Latvians and Ukrainians, go through the open door into the "bath." Five hundred persons could fit at a time. The floor of the "bath chamber" was made of metal and shower heads hung from the ceiling. When the room was full, the SS turned on the 5,000 volts of electric current in the metal plate. At the same time water poured from the shower heads. A short scream and the execution was over. An SS chief physician named Schmidt determined through a peep hole that the victims were dead. The second door was opened and the "corpse commando" came in and quickly removed the dead. It was ready for the next 500.

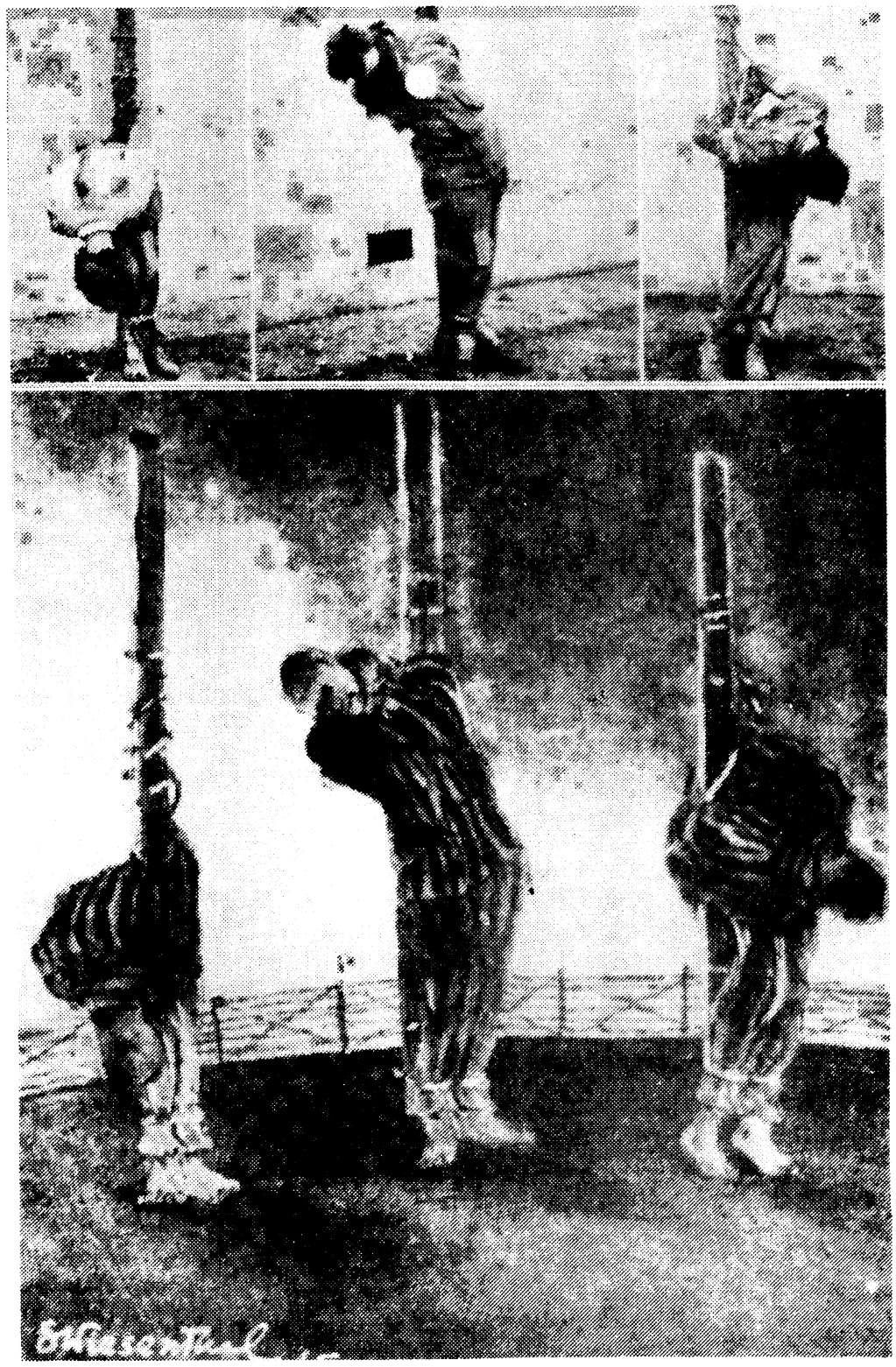
Today no serious historian accepts the stories that Jewish corpses were manufactured into bars of soap or that Jews were electrocuted to death at Belzec (or anywhere).

Wiesenthal's imaginative view of history is not limited to the twentieth century. In his 1973 book *Sails of Hope*, he argued that Christopher Columbus was a secret Jew, and that his famous voyage to the western hemisphere in 1492 was actually a search for a new homeland for Europe's Jews.[30]

Wiesenthal is not always wrong, of course. In 1975 and again in 1993 he publicly acknowledged that "there were no extermination camps on German soil."[31] He thus implicitly conceded that the claims made at the postwar Nuremberg Tribunal and elsewhere that Buchenwald, Dachau and other camps in Germany proper were "extermination camps" are not true.

'Fabrications' About Eichmann

In more than 40 years of "Nazi hunting," Wiesenthal's role in locating and capturing Adolf Eichmann is often considered his greatest



In a book published in 1946, Simon Wiesenthal sought to portray wartime horrors of the Mauthausen concentration camp. His book consists largely of his own sketches, including one here showing three inmates who had been bound to posts and killed.

This sketch is a fraud. It was copied, with some changes, from three photographs published in *Life* magazine in 1945, that record the firing-squad execution in December 1944 of three German soldiers who had been caught operating as spies behind the lines during the "Battle of the Bulge."

For his drawing, Wiesenthal adapted and combined the photos (above) showing the three Germans after their execution.

achievement.[32] (Eichmann headed the wartime SS Jewish affairs department. He was kidnapped by Israeli agents in Argentina in May 1960 and hanged in Jerusalem after a trial that received worldwide media attention.)

But Isser Harel, the Israeli official who headed the team that seized Eichmann, has declared unequivocally that Wiesenthal had "absolutely nothing" to do with the capture. (Harel is a former head of both the Mossad and Shin Bet, Israel's foreign and domestic security agencies.)[33]

Wiesenthal not only "had no role whatsoever" in the apprehension, said Harel, but in fact he endangered the entire Eichmann operation. In a 278-page manuscript, Harel carefully refuted every claim by Wiesenthal about his supposed role in identifying and capturing Eichmann. Claims by Wiesenthal and his many friends about his supposedly crucial role in capturing the former SS officer, said Harel, have no foundation in fact. Many specific assertions and incidents described in two books by Wiesenthal, said the Israeli official, are "complete fabrications."[34]

"Wiesenthal's reports and statements at that period prove beyond any doubt that he had no notion of Eichmann's whereabouts," said Harel.[35] (For example, just before Eichmann's capture in Argentina, Wiesenthal was placing him in Japan and Saudi Arabia.)[36]

Characterizing Wiesenthal as a rank opportunist, Harel summed up: "All the information supplied by Wiesenthal before and in anticipation of the [Eichmann] operation was utterly worthless, and sometimes even misleading and of negative value."[37]

Reckless Charges in Walus Case

One of Wiesenthal's most spectacular cases involved a Polish-born Chicago man named Frank Walus. In a letter dated December 10, 1974, he charged that Walus "delivered Jews to the Gestapo" in Czestochowa and Kielce in Poland during the war. This letter prompted a US government investigation and legal action.[38] *The Washington Post* dealt with the case in a 1981 article entitled "The Nazi Who Never Was: How a witch hunt by judge, press and investigators branded an innocent man a war criminal." The lengthy piece, which was copyrighted by the American Bar Association, reported:[39]

> In January 1977, the United States government accused a Chicagoan named Frank Walus of having committed atrocities in Poland during World War II.
>
> In the following years, this retired factory worker went into debt in order to raise more than $60,000 to defend himself. He sat in a courtroom while eleven Jewish survivors of the Nazi occupation of Poland testified that they saw him murder children, an old woman, a young woman, a hunchback and others ...
>
> Overwhelming evidence shows that Walus was not a Nazi War criminal, that he was not even in Poland during World War II.
>
> ... In an atmosphere of hatred and loathing verging on hysteria, the government persecuted an innocent man. In 1974, Simon Wiesenthal, the famous "Nazi hunter" of Vienna, denounced Walus as "a Pole in Chicago who performed duties with the Gestapo in the ghettos of Czestochowa and Kielce and handed over a number of Jews to the Gestapo."

The Chicago weekly newspaper *Reader* also reported on the case in a detailed 1981 article headlined: "The Persecution of Frank Walus: To Catch a Nazi: The U.S. government wanted a war criminal. So, with the help of Simon Wiesenthal, the Israeli police, the local press and Judge Julius Hoffman, they invented one."[40] The article stated:

> ... It is logical to assume that the "reports received by Wiesenthal [against Walus] actually were rumors... In other words, Simon Wiesenthal had no evidence against Walus. He denounced him anyway.
>
> While [Judge] Hoffman had the Walus case under advisement, *Holocaust* aired on television. During the same period, in April 1978, Simon Wiesenthal came to Chicago, where he gave interviews taking credit for the Walus case. "How Nazi-Hunter Helped Find Walus," was the *Sun-Times* headline on a story by Bob Olmstead. Wiesenthal told *Sun-Times* Abe Peck that he "has never had a case of mistaken identity." "I know there are thousands of people who wait for my mistake," he said.

It was only after an exhausting legal battle that the man who was vilified and physically attacked as "the butcher of Kielce" was finally able to prove that he had spent the war years as a peaceful farm laborer in Germany. Frank Walus died in August 1994, a broken and bitterly disappointed man, man.

Wiesenthal's recklessness in the Walus case should have been enough to permanently discredit him as a reliable investigator. But his Teflon reputation survived even this.

Wrong About Mengele

Much of the Wiesenthal myth is based on his hunt for Joseph Mengele, the wartime physician at Auschwitz known as the "Angel of Death." Time and time again, Wiesenthal claimed to be close on Mengele's heels. Wiesenthal reported that his informants had "seen" or "just missed" the elusive

physician in Peru, Chile, Brazil, Spain, Greece, and half a dozen locations in Paraguay.[41]

One of the closest shaves came in the summer of 1960. Wiesenthal reported that Mengele had been hiding out on a small Greek island, from where he escaped by just a few hours. Wiesenthal continued to peddle this story, complete with precise details, even after a reporter whom he had hired to check it out informed him that the tale was false from beginning to end.[42]

According to another Wiesenthal report, Mengele arranged for the murder in 1960 of one of his former victims, a woman he had supposedly sterilized in Auschwitz. After spotting her, and her distinctive camp tattoo, at a hotel in Argentina where he was staying, Mengele allegedly arranged to have her killed because he feared that she would expose him. It turned out that the woman was never in a concentration camp, had no tattoo, had never met Mengele, and her death was a simple mountaineering accident.[43]

Mengele regularly dined at the finest restaurants in Asuncion, the Paraguayan capital, Wiesenthal said in 1977, and supposedly drove around the city with a bevy of armed guards in his black Mercedes Benz.[44]

Wiesenthal announced in 1985 that he was "100 percent sure" that Mengele had been hiding out in Paraguay until at least June 1984, and charged that the Mengele family in Germany knew exactly where. As it turned out, Wiesenthal was completely wrong. It was later definitively established that Mengele had died in 1979 in Brazil, where he had been living for years in anonymous poverty.[45]

Israel's ambassador to Paraguay from 1968 to 1972, Benjamin (Benno) Varon, remarked in 1983 on the Mengele campaign: "Wiesenthal makes periodic statements that he is about to catch him, perhaps since Wiesenthal must raise funds for his activities and the name Mengele is always good for a plug." Wiesenthal "failed miserably" in the Mengele case, the diplomat said on another occasion.[46] In the Mengele case, former Mossad chief Harel remarked, "Wiesenthal's folly borders on the criminal."[47]

In truth, the bulging Mengele file in Wiesenthal's Vienna "Documentation Center" was such a jumble of useless information that, in the words of the London *Times*, it "only sustained his self-confirmatory myths and gave scant satisfaction to those who apparently needed a definitive answer to Mengele's fate."[48]

In the considered view of Gerald Posner and John Ware, coauthors of *Mengele: The Complete Story*, Wiesenthal spent years assiduously cultivating a mythical "self-image of a tireless, dogged sleuth, pitted against the omnipotent and sinister might of Mengele and a vast Nazi network." Because of his "knack of playing to the gallery," Posner and Ware concluded, Wiesenthal "ultimately compromised his credibility."[49]

'Incompetence and Arrogance'

Eli Rosenbaum, an official with the US government's "Nazi hunting" Office of Special Investigations and an investigator for the World Jewish Congress, took aim at Wiesenthal's carefully cultivated "Nazi hunter" reputation in a detailed 1993 book, *Betrayal*.[50] For example, Rosenbaum mentioned, Wiesenthal "had all these reports placing Mengele in almost every country in Latin America except the one he was in — namely, Brazil."[51]

Wiesenthal, wrote Rosenbaum, has been a "pathetically ineffective" investigator who had "gone far beyond the buffoonery and false boasts in prior years." Much of his illustrious career, Rosenbaum said, has been characterized by "incompetence and arrogance."[52]

Bruno Kreisky once summed up his attitude towards the "Nazi hunter" in these words:[53]

> The engineer Wiesenthal, or whatever else his title is, hates me because he knows that I despise his activity. The Wiesenthal group is a quasi-political Mafia that works against Austria with disgraceful methods. Wiesenthal is known as someone who isn't very careful about the truth, who is not very selective about his methods and who uses tricks. He pretends to be the "Eichmann hunter," even though everyone knows that this was the work of a secret service, and that Wiesenthal only takes credit for that.

'Commercializing' the Holocaust

The Los Angeles Wiesenthal Center pays the Vienna "Nazi Hunter" $75,000 a year for the use of his name, the director of Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust center said in 1988.

Both the Center and Wiesenthal "commercialize" and "trivialize" the Holocaust, the director added.

Wiesenthal "threw out" the figure of "11 million who were murdered in the Holocaust — six million Jews and five million non-Jews," said the Yad Vashem official. When asked why he gave these figures, Wiesenthal replied: "The gentiles will not pay attention if we do not mention their victims, too." Wiesenthal "chose 'five million (gentiles)' because he wanted a 'diplomatic' number, one that told of a large number of gentile victims but in no way was larger than that of Jews ..."[54]

"What Wiesenthal and the Los Angeles Center that bears his name do is to trivialize the Holocaust," commented *The Jewish Press*, a weekly that

claims to be the largest-circulation English-language Jewish community paper in America.

In recent years Wiesenthal has been concerned about the growing impact of Holocaust revisionism. In "A Message from Simon Wiesenthal" published by the Center that bears his name, he said: "Today, when I see the rise of antisemitism here in Europe ... the popularity of Le Pen, of David Duke, of the Holocaust revisionists, then I am convinced more than ever about the need for our new [Wiesenthal Center] Beit Hashoah-Museum of Tolerance" in Los Angeles.[55]

Wiesenthal is often asked why he does not forgive those who persecuted Jews half a century ago. His stock answer is that although he has the right to forgive for himself, he does not have the right to forgive on behalf of others.[56] On the basis of this sophistical logic, though, neither does he have the right to accuse and track down anyone in the name of others. Wiesenthal has never confined his "hunt" to those who victimized him personally.

'Driven by Hatred'

It is difficult to say just what drives this remarkable man. Is it a craving for fame and praise? Or is he trying to live down a shameful episode from his past?

Wiesenthal clearly enjoys the praise he receives. "He is a man of considerable ego, proud of testimonials and honorary degrees," the *Los Angeles Times* has reported.[57] Bruno Kreisky has given a simpler explanation. He said that Wiesenthal is "driven by hatred."[58]

In light of his well-documented record of deceit, lies and incompetence, the extravagant praise heaped upon this contemptible man is a sorry reflection of the venal corruptibility and unprincipled self-deception of our age.

Self-Deception

"All to often in this part of the world, fear of one lie gives birth to another lie, in the foolish hope that by protecting ourselves from the first lie we will be protected from lies in general. But a lie can never protect us from a lie. Those who falsify history do not protect the freedom of the nation but rather constitute a threat to it.

"The idea that a person can rewrite his autobiography is one of the traditional self-deceptions of Central Europe. Trying to do that means hurting oneself and one's fellow countrymen. When a truth is not given complete freedom, freedom is not complete."

— Czech President Vaclav Havel, July 26, 1990.

Notes

1. Quoted in: M. Weber, "'Nazi Hunter' Caught Lying," *The Spotlight* (Washington, DC), Oct. 26, 1981, p. 9.
2. Interrogation of S. Wiesenthal on May 27 and 28, 1948, conducted by Curt Ponger of the Interrogation Branch of the Evidence Division of the Office (U.S.) Chief of Counsel for War Crimes. Interrogation No. 2820. On file at the National Archives (Washington, DC), "Records of the U.S. Nürnberg War Crimes Trials Interrogations, 1946–49," Record Group 238, microfilm M-1019, roll 79, frames 460–469 and 470–476. Also cited in: "New Documents Raise New Doubts About Simon Wiesenthal's War Years," *The Journal of Historical Review*, Winter 1988–89 (Vol. 8, No. 4), pp. 489–503.
3. PCIRO (International Refugee Organization, Austria) "Application for Assistance" filled out and signed by Wiesenthal. Dated Jan. 16,1949. (This was a trial exhibit in the Walus court case. Photocopy in author's possession.)
4. Simon Wiesenthal, *The Murderers Among Us: The Simon Wiesenthal Memoirs*. Edited by Joseph Wechsberg. (New York: McGraw Hill, 1967)
5. Interrogation of S. Wiesenthal, May 27, 1948, pp. 1–2.
6. *The Murderers Among Us*, p. 27.
7. *The Murderers Among Us*, pp. 29–35. This account is not inconsistent with his 1948 and 1949 statements; See also: Simon Wiesenthal, *Justice Not Vengeance* (New York: Grove Weidenfeld: 1989), pp. 7–9.
8. Interrogation of May 27, 1948, p. 2. In a signed 1945 statement, Wiesenthal wrote:

   "... I escaped on October 18, 1943, from the Lemberg [Lvov] hard labor camp where I was kept as a prisoner during my two years of labor at the railroad works... and went into hiding until joining Jewish partisans on November 21, 1943, who operated there. It was while fighting in the partisan ranks against the Nazis that we managed to collect and bury for safekeeping considerable amount of evidence... When the partisans were dispersed by the Germans I fled to Lemberg on February 10, 1944, and again went into hiding. On June 13, 1944, I was found during a house to house search and was immediately sent to the famous Lacki camp, near that city ..." Source: "Curriculum Vitae of Ing. Wiesenthal, Szymon." SHAEF, Subject: War Crimes, July 6, 1945. Records of USAEUR, War Crimes Branch, National Archives (Suitland, Maryland), Records Group 338, Box 534, Folder 000-50-59.

   Wiesenthal's alleged partisans activities are also recounted in Alan Levy, *The Wiesenthal File* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1994), pp. 50–53.
9. Interrogation of May 28, 1948, pp. 1–2.
10. Interrogation of May 28, 1948, p. 5.
11. *The Murderers Among Us*, pp. 35–37.
12. *The Murderers Among Us*, pp. 37–38; Interrogation, May 27, 1948, p. 2, and May 28, 1948, p. 5; A. Levy, *The Wiesenthal File* (1994), p. 54.
13. *The Murderers Among Us*, pp. 39–44; Interrogation, May 27, 1948, pp. 2–3.
14. Interview with foreign journalists in Vienna, Nov. 10, 1975. Text published in: "War Wiesenthal ein Gestapo-Kollaborateur?," *Profil* (Vienna), No. 47, Nov. 18, 1975, pp. 16, 22–23; Reprinted in: Robert H. Drechsler, *Simon Wiesenthal: Dokumentation* (Vienna: 1982), pp. 215–218, 222–223; Quoted in part in A. Levy, *The Wiesenthal File* (1994), p. 349, and in, S. Wiesenthal, *Justice Not Vengeance* (New York: 1989), pp. 7, 299.

Kreisky was not alone in charging that Wiesenthal had collaborated with the German Gestapo. Wim Van Leer, columnist for the English-language daily *Jerusalem Post*, stated in May 1986 that a high-level police official in Vienna, citing confidential police records, had told him during the early 1960s that these and other charges against Wiesenthal were true. Source: J. Bushinsky, "Nazi hunter sues over charges of links to Gestapo," *Chicago Sun-Times*, Jan. 31, 1987.

15. Simon Wiesenthal, *KZ Mauthausen* (Linz and Vienna: Ibis-Verlag, 1946). Facsimile reprint in: Robert H. Drechsler, *Simon Wiesenthal: Dokumentation* (Vienna: 1982), p. 64.
16. "Firing Squad," *Life* magazine, US edition, June 11, 1945, p. 50.
17. M. Weber and K. Stimely, "The Sleight-of-Hand of Simon Wiesenthal," *The Journal of Historical Review*, Spring 1984 (Vol. 5, No. 1), pp. 120–122; *D. National-Zeitung* (Munich), May 21, 1993, p. 3.
18. S. Wiesenthal, *KZ Mauthausen* (1946). See also facsimile reprint in: Robert H. Drechsler, *Simon Wiesenthal: Dokumentation* (Vienna: 1982), pp. 42, 46. This "confession" is a somewhat altered version of Nuremberg document NO-1973;

    A new edition of Wiesenthal's 1946 book has been published under the title *Denn sie Wussten, was sie tun: Zeichnungen und Aufzeichnungen aus dem KZ Mauthausen* (Vienna: F. Deuticke, 1995). I am grateful to Robert Faurisson for bringing this to my attention. He points out in a July 1995 essay that Wiesenthal has deleted from this new edition both the "death bed confession" of Ziereis as well as his drawing of the three Mauthausen inmates.
19. According to the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* ("Mauthausen,", Vol. 11, p. 1138), a grand total of 206,000 persons were inmates of Mauthausen and its satellite camps (including Hartheim) at one time or another.
20. S. Wiesenthal, *KZ Mauthausen* (1946). Facsimile reprint in: R. Drechsler, *Simon Wiesenthal: Dokumentation*, p. 47.
21. R. Faurisson, "The Gas Chambers: Truth or Lie?," *The Journal of Historical Review*, Winter 1981, pp. 330, 361. See also: Hans Fritzsche, *The Sword in the Scales* (London: 1953), p. 185; Gerald Reitlinger, *The Final Solution* (London: Sphere, pb., 1971), p. 515; M. Weber, "The Nuremberg Trials and the Holocaust," *The Journal of Historical Review*, Summer 1992 (Vol. 12, No. 2), p. 182.
22. *USA Today*, April 21, 1983, p. 9A.
23. *The Murderers Among Us*, p. 44.
24. Evelyn Le Chene, *Mauthausen: The History of a Death Camp* (London: 1971), pp. 166–168 and 190–191.
25. "Mauthausen", *Encyclopaedia Judaica* (New York & Jerusalem: 1971), vol. 11, p. 1138.
26. C. Moritz, ed., *Current Biography 1975* (New York: H.W. Wilson, 1975), p. 442; Wiesenthal interrogation of May 27, 1948, p. 3.
27. Mark Weber, "Jewish Soap," *The Journal of Historical Review*, Summer 1991 (Vol. 11, No. 2), pp. 217–227; See also: Robert Faurisson, "La savon juif," *Annales d'Histoire Revisionniste* (Paris), No. 1, Printemps 1987, pp. 153–159.
28. *Der Neue Weg* (Vienna), No. 17/18, 1946, pp. 4–5. Article entitled "RIF" by "Ing. Wiesenth." (Simon Wiesenthal).
29. *Der Neue Weg* (Vienna), Nr. 19/20, 1946, pp. 14–15. Article entitled "Seifenfabrik Belsetz" ("Belzec Soap Factory"), by "Ing. S.Wiesenth."
30. S. Wiesenthal, *Sails of Hope* (Macmillan, 1973).
31. Letters by Wiesenthal in *Books & Bookmen* (London), April 1975, p. 5, and in *Stars and Stripes* (European edition), Jan. 24, 1993, p. 14. Facsimile of *Stars and Stripes* letter in *The Journal of Historical Review*, May–June 1993, p. 10;

    In 1986 Wiesenthal lied about his 1975 statement. In a letter dated May 12, 1986, to Prof. John George of Central State University in Edmond, Oklahoma (copy in author's possession), Wiesenthal wrote: "I have never stated that 'there were no extermination camps on German soil.' This quote is false, I could never have said such a thing."
32. For example, in a letter (dated Sept. 13, 1993), published in *The New York Times*, Sept. 29, 1993, Wiesenthal boasted: "I succeeded in putting a number of Nazis on trial who had perpetrated horrendous crimes in the Nazi era, including Adolf Eichmann, Franz Stangl, Gustav Wagner,..."
33. S. Birnbaum, "Wiesenthal's Claim on Eichmann Disputed by Former Mossad Head," *Jewish Telegraphic Agency Daily News Bulletin* (New York), April 4, 1989. (Dispatch dated April 3).
34. J. Schachter, "Wiesenthal had no role in Eichmann capture," *The Jerusalem Post*, May 18, 1991. Facsimile reprint in *Christian News*, May 27, 1991, p. 19. See also: Ruth Sinai, "Wiesenthal's role in Eichmann's capture disputed," Associated Press, *The Orange County Register*, Feb. 25, 1990, p. A 26; L. Lagnado, "How Simon Wiesenthal Helped a Secret Nazi," *Forward* (New York), Sept. 24, 1993, pp. 1, 3.
35. J. Schachter, *The Jerusalem Post*, May 18, 1991 (cited above). Facsimile in *Christian News*, May 27, 1991, p. 19.
36. Arnold Forster, *Square One* (New York: 1988), pp. 187–189. (Forster was general counsel of the Anti-Defamation League, a major Zionist organization.)
37. J. Goldberg, "Top Spy Says Wiesenthal Lied About His Exploits," *Forward* (New York), Nov. 12, 1993, pp. 1, 4; R. Sinai, "Wiesenthal's role...," *The Orange County Register*, Feb. 25, 1990 (cited above).
38. Michael Arndt, "The Wrong Man," *The Chicago Tribune Magazine*, Dec. 2, 1984, pp. 15–35, esp. p. 23; Charles Ashman and Robert J. Wagman, *The Nazi Hunters* (New York: Pharos Books, 1988), pp. 193–195.
39. "The Nazi Who Never Was," *The Washington Post*, May 10, 1981, pp. B5, B8.
40. "The Persecution of Frank Walus," *Reader* (Chicago), Jan. 23, 1981, pp. 19, 30. After Wiesenthal was ultimately proven wrong in a similar case in Canada, the Toronto *Sun* newspaper commented in an editorial: "It seems that material provided by professional Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal is wrong, but repeated anyway [in the media]." (Quoted by M. Weber in *The Journal of Historical Review*, Spring 1984, pp. 120–122.)
41. Gerald L. Posner and John Ware, *Mengele: The Complete Story* (New York: Dell, 1987), pp. 220–221; Gerald Astor, *The 'Last' Nazi: The Life and Times of Dr. Joseph Mengele* (Toronto: Paperjacks, 1986), p. 202.
42. G. Posner and J. Ware, *Mengele: The Complete Story* (cited above), p. 220.
43. G. Posner and J. Ware, *Mengele* (cited above), pp. 179–180; G. Astor, The 'Last' Nazi (cited above), pp. 178–180.
44. *Time* magazine, Sept. 26, 1977, pp. 36–38. Cited in: G. Posner and J. Ware, *Mengele* (cited above), p. 219.
45. "Hunting the 'Angel of Death'," *Newsweek*, May 20, 1985, pp. 36–38. See also: M. Weber, "Lessons of the Mengele Affair," *Journal of Historical Review*, Fall 1985 (Vol. 6, No. 3), p. 382. On Wiesenthal's distortion of truth in the Mer-

melstein-IHR case, see: M. Weber, "Declaration," *Journal of Historical Review*, Spring 1982 (Vol. 3, No. 1), pp. 42–43; M. Weber, "Albert Speer and the 'Holocaust,'" *Journal of Historical Review*, Winter 1984 (Vol. 5, Nos. 2–4), p. 439.

46. *Midstream*, Dec. 1983, p. 24. Quoted in: G. Posner and J. Ware, *Mengele* (cited above), p. 219; *Los Angeles Times*, Nov. 15, 1985, p. 2.
47. J. Schachter, "Wiesenthal had no role in Eichmann capture," *The Jerusalem Post*, May 18, 1991. Facsimile reprint in *Christian News*, May 27, 1991, p. 19.
48. Tom Bower in *The Times* (London), June 14, 1985, p. 14. Quoted in: G. Posner and J. Ware, *Mengele* (cited above), pp. 222–223.
49. G. Posner and J. Ware, *Mengele* (cited above), pp. 222–223.
50. *Betrayal*, by Eli M. Rosenbaum, with William Hoffer. Published in 1993 by St. Martin's Press (New York). Reviewed by Jacob Heilbrunn in *The New York Times Book Review*, Oct. 10, 1993, p. 9.
51. Quoted in L. Lagnado, "How Simon Wiesenthal...," *Forward* (New York), Sept. 24, 1993, p. 3.
52. *The New York Times Book Review*, Oct. 10, 1993, p. 9; *Forward* (New York), Sept. 24, 1993, p. 3.
53. "Was hat Wiesenthal zu verbergen?," *D. National-Zeitung* (Munich), Nov. 11, 1988, p. 4.
54. David Sinai, "News We Doubt You've Seen," *The Jewish Press* (Brooklyn, NY), Dec. 23, 1988. Based on report in the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz*, Dec. 16, 1988.
55. "A Message from Simon Wiesenthal," *Response: The Wiesenthal Center World Report*, Winter 1992, p. 11.
56. Charles Ashman and Robert J. Wagman, *The Nazi Hunters* (New York: Pharos Books, 1988), p. 286; A. Popkin, "Nazi-Hunter Simon Wiesenthal: 'Information is Our Best Defense'," *Washington Jewish Week*, Oct. 29, 1987, p. 2.
57. Quoted in: M. Weber, *The Spotlight*, Oct. 26, 1981, p. 9.
58. Quoted in *D. National-Zeitung* (Munich), July 8, 1988, p. 7, and in, R. Drechsler, *Simon Wiesenthal: Dokumentation* (Vienna: 1982), p. 199.

Act of Faith

"Gradually but unmistakably America is showing signs of that arrogance of power — the tendency of great nations to equate power with virtue and major responsibilities with a universal mission — which has affected, weakened and in some cases destroyed great nations in the past. In so doing, we are not living up to our capacity and promise as a civilized example for the world; the measure of our falling short is the measure of the patriot's duty of dissent. And, in a democracy, dissent is an act of faith."

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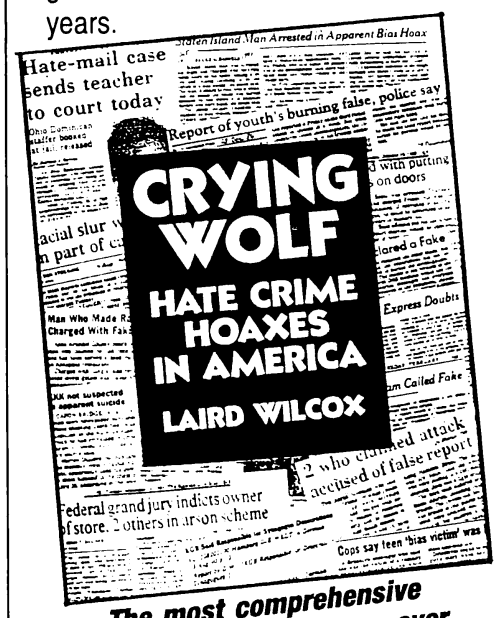
Crying Wolf
HATE CRIME HOAXES IN AMERICA

Racial, sexual, and religious conflict have long been bread and butter to the media, but today's obsession with "hate crimes" adds a dangerous Orwellian dimension to the phenomenon. Crimes motivated by hatred do occur—they always have. But because of big payoffs to victims and victims' right groups in the form of free publicity for political agendas and even financial gain, "hate crime" fabrication has soared in recent years.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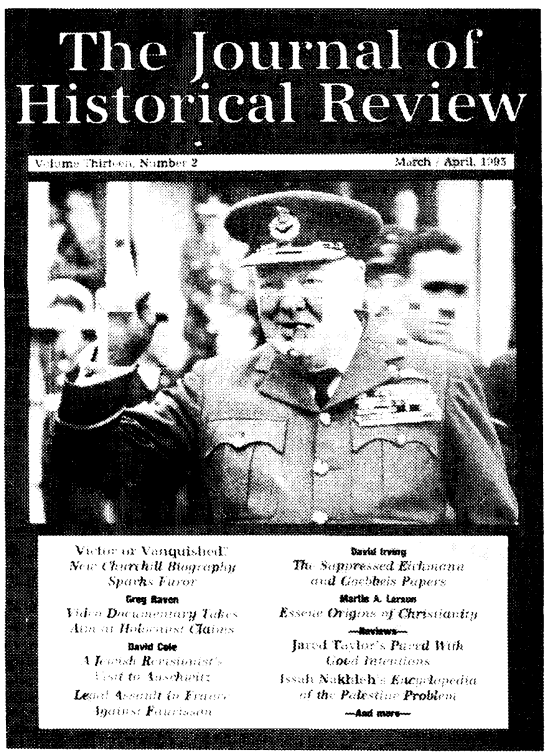
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The Liberation of the Camps: Facts vs. Lies

THEODORE J. O'KEEFE

Earlier this year countless newspaper and magazine feature articles and special television broadcasts recalled the liberation 50 years ago by American, British and Soviet troops of German concentration camps. As the following essay shows, many of these retrospective articles and reports grossly distort reality.

Nothing has been more effective in establishing the authenticity of the Holocaust story in the minds of Americans than the terrible scenes US troops discovered when they entered German concentration camps at the close of World War II.

At Dachau, Buchenwald, Dora, Mauthausen, and other work and detention camps, horrified US infantrymen encountered heaps of dead and dying inmates, emaciated and diseased. Survivors told them hair-raising stories of torture and slaughter, and backed up their claims by showing the GIs crematory ovens, alleged execution gas chambers, supposed implements of torture, and even shrunken heads and lampshades, gloves, and handbags purportedly made from skin flayed from dead inmates.

US government authorities, mindful that many Americans who remembered the atrocity stories fed them during World War I still doubted the Allied propaganda directed against the Hitler regime, resolved to "document" what the GIs had found in the camps. Prominent newsmen and politicians were flown in to see the harrowing evidence, while the US Army Signal Corps filmed and photographed the scenes for posterity. Famous journalist Edward R. Murrow reported, in tones of horror, but no longer of disbelief, what he had been told and shown, and Dachau and Buchenwald were branded on the hearts and minds of the American populace as names of infamy unmatched in the sad and bloody history of this planet.

For Americans, what was "discovered" at the camps — the dead and the diseased, the terrible stories of the inmates, all the props of torture and terror — became the basis not simply of a transitory propaganda campaign but of the conviction that, yes, it was true: the Germans did exterminate six million Jews, most of them in lethal gas chambers.

What the GIs found was used, by way of films that were mandatory viewing for the vanquished populace of Germany, to "re-educate" the German people by destroying their national pride and their will to a united, independent national state, imposing in their place overwhelming feelings of collective guilt and political impotence. And when the testimony, and the verdict, of the Nuremberg Tribunal incorporated most, if not all, of the horror stories Americans were told about Dachau, Buchenwald, and other places captured by the US Army, the Holocaust could pass for one of the most documented, one of the most authenticated, one of the most proven historical episodes in the human record.

A Different Reality

But it is known today that, very soon after the liberation of the camps, American authorities were aware that the real story of the camps was quite different from the one in which they were coaching military public information officers, government spokesmen, politicians, journalists, and other mouthpieces.

When American and British forces overran western and central Germany in the spring of 1945, they were followed by troops charged with discovering and securing any evidence of German war crimes.

Among them was Dr. Charles Larson, one of America's leading forensic pathologists, who was assigned to the US Army's Judge Advocate General's Department. As part of a US War Crimes Investigation Team, Dr. Larson performed autopsies at Dachau and some twenty other German camps, examining on some days more than 100 corpses. After his grim work at Dachau, he was

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Theodore J. O'Keefe, educated at Harvard University, is the author of numerous published articles, essays and reviews on historical and political subjects. For some years he served as editor of this *Journal*.

A version of this essay is available, in convenient leaflet form, from the IHR at the following prices, postpaid: Ten copies for $2; Fifty copies for $5; 100 copies or more, 8 cents each.

questioned for three days by US Army prosecutors.[1]

Dr. Larson's findings? In an 1980 newspaper interview he said: "What we've heard is that six million Jews were exterminated. Part of that is a hoax."[2] And what part was the hoax? Dr. Larson, who told his biographer that to his knowledge he "was the only forensic pathologist on duty in the entire European Theater" of Allied military operations,[3] confirmed that "never was a case of poison gas uncovered."[4]

Typhus, Not Poison Gas

If not by gassing, how did the unfortunate victims at Dachau, Buchenwald and Bergen-Belsen perish? Were they tortured to death or deliberately starved? The answers to these questions are known as well.

As Dr. Larson and other Allied medical men discovered, the chief cause of death at Dachau, Belsen and the other camps was disease, above all typhus, an old and terrible scourge of mankind that until recently flourished in places where populations were crowded together in circumstances where public health measures were unknown or had broken down. Such was the case in the overcrowded internment camps in Germany at war's end, where, despite such measures as systematic delousing, quarantine of the sick and cremation of the dead, the virtual collapse of Germany's food, transport, and public health systems led to catastrophe.

Perhaps the most authoritative statement of the facts as to typhus and mortality in the camps has been made by Dr. John E. Gordon, M.D., Ph.D., a professor of preventive medicine and epidemiology at the Harvard University School of Public Health, who was with US forces in Germany in 1945. Dr. Gordon reported in 1948 that "The outbreaks in concentration camps and prisons made up the great bulk of typhus infection encountered in Germany." Dr. Gordon summarized the causes for the outbreaks as follows:[5]

> Germany in the spring months of April and May [1945] was an astounding sight, a mixture of humanity travelling this way and that, homeless, often hungry and carrying typhus with them ...
>
> Germany was in chaos. The destruction of whole cities and the path left by advancing armies produced a disruption of living conditions contributing to the spread of the disease. Sanitation was low grade, public utilities were seriously disrupted, food supply and food distribution was poor, housing was inadequate and order and discipline were everywhere lacking. Still more important, a shifting of populations was occurring such as few countries and few times have experienced.

Theodore J. O'Keefe

Dr. Gordon's findings are corroborated by Dr. Russell Barton, today a psychiatrist of international repute, who entered Bergen-Belsen with British forces as a young medical student in 1945. Barton, who volunteered to care for the diseased survivors, testified under sworn oath in a Toronto courtroom in 1985 that "Thousands of prisoners who died at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp during World War II weren't deliberately starved to death but died from a rash of diseases."[6]

Dr. Barton further testified that on entering the camp he had credited stories of deliberate starvation but decided such stories were untrue after inspecting the well equipped kitchens and the meticulously maintained ledgers, dating back to 1942, of food cooked and dispensed each day.

Despite noisily publicized claims and widespread popular notions to the contrary, no researcher has been able to document a German policy of extermination through starvation in the German camps.

No 'Human Skin' Lampshades

What of the ghoulish stories of concentration camp inmates skinned for their tattoos, flayed to make lampshades and handbags, or other artifacts? What of the innumerable "torture racks," "meathooks," whipping posts, gallows, and other tools of torment and death that are reported to have abounded at every German camp? These allegations, and even more grotesque ones proffered by Soviet prosecutors, found their way into the record at Nuremberg.

The lampshade and tattooed-skin charges were made against Ilse Koch, dubbed by journalists the "Bitch of Buchenwald," who was reported to have furnished her house with objects manufactured from the tanned hides of luckless inmates.

But General Lucius Clay, military governor of the US zone of occupied Germany, who reviewed her case in 1948, told his superiors in Washington: "There is no convincing evidence that she [Ilse Koch] selected inmates for extermination in order to secure tattooed skins or that she possessed any articles made of human skin."[7] In an interview General Clay gave years later, he stated about the material for the infamous lampshades: "Well, it turned out actually that is was goat flesh. But at the trial it was still human flesh. It was almost impossible for her to have gotten a fair trial."[8] Ilse Koch hanged herself in a German jail in 1967.

US Senator Alben Barkley, a member of a special American congressional committee, views bodies of prisoners at the recently liberated Buchenwald camp, April 1945.

It would be tedious to itemize and refute the thousands of bizarre claims as to Nazi atrocities. That there were instances of German cruelty, however, is clear from the testimony of Dr. Konrad Morgen, a legal investigator attached to the Reich Criminal Police, whose statements on the witness stand at Nuremberg have never been challenged by proponents of the Jewish Holocaust story. Dr. Morgen informed the court that he had been given full authority by Heinrich Himmler, commander of Hitler's SS and the dread Gestapo, to enter any German concentration camp and investigate instances of cruelty and corruption on the part of camp personnel.

As he explained in sworn testimony at Nuremberg, Dr. Morgen investigated 800 such cases, resulting in more than 200 convictions.[9] Punishments included the death penalty for the worst offenders, including Hermann Florstedt, commandant of Lublin (Majdanek), and Karl Koch (Ilse's husband), commandant of Buchenwald.

While German camp commandants in certain cases did inflict physical punishment, such acts had to be approved by authorities in Berlin, and it was required that a camp physician first certify the good health of the prisoner to be disciplined, and then be on hand at the actual beating.[10] After all, throughout most of the war the camps were important centers of industrial activity. The good health and morale of the prisoners was critical to the German war effort, as is evidenced in a January 1943 order issued by SS General Richard Glücks, chief of the office that supervised the concentration camps. It held the camp commanders "personally responsible for exhausting every possibility to preserve the physical strength of the detainees."[11]

Camp Survivors: Merely Victims?

US Army investigators, working at Buchenwald and other camps, quickly ascertained what was common knowledge among veteran inmates: that the worst offenders, the cruelest denizens of the camps were not the guards but the prisoners themselves. Common criminals of the same stripe as those who populate US prisons today committed many villainies, particularly when they held positions of authority, and fanatical Communists, highly organized to combat their many political enemies among the inmates, eliminated their foes with Stalinist ruthlessness.

Two US Army investigators at Buchenwald, Egon W. Fleck and Edward A. Tenenbaum, carefully investigated circumstances in the camp before its liberation. In a detailed report submitted to their superiors, they revealed, in the words of Alfred Toombs, their commander, who wrote a preface to the report, "how the prisoners themselves organized a deadly terror within the Nazi terror."[12]

Fleck and Tenenbaum described the power exercised by criminals and Communists as follows:

> The trusties, who in time became almost exclusively Communist Germans, had the power of life and death over all other inmates. They could sentence a man or a group to almost certain death ... The Communist trusties were directly responsible for a large part of the brutalities at Buchenwald.

Colonel Donald B. Robinson, chief historian of the American military government in Germany, summarized the Fleck-Tenenbaum report in an article published in an American magazine shortly after the war. Colonel Robinson wrote succinctly of the American investigators' findings: "It appeared

that the prisoners who agreed with the Communists ate; those who didn't starved to death."[13]

Additional corroboration of inmate brutality has been provided by Ellis E. Spackman, who, as Chief of Counter-Intelligence Arrests and Detentions for the US Seventh Army, was involved in the liberation of Dachau. Spackman, later a professor of history at San Bernardino Valley College in California, wrote in 1966 that at Dachau "the prisoners were the actual instruments that inflicted the barbarities on their fellow prisoners."[14]

Dachau camp prisoners cheer their American liberators, April 29, 1945.

'Gas Chambers'

In December 1944 US Army officers Colonel Paul Kirk and Lt. Colonel Edward J. Gully inspected the German concentration camp at Struthof-Natzweiler in Alsace. They submitted their findings to their superiors at the headquarters of the US 6th Army Group, which subsequently forwarded their report to the US War Crimes Division. While, significantly, the full text of their report has never been published, it has been revealed, by a historian supportive of Holocaust claims, that the two investigators were careful to characterize equipment exhibited to them by French informants as a "*so-called* lethal gas chamber," and to claim it was "*allegedly* used as a lethal gas chamber."[15] (Emphasis added)

Both the careful phraseology of the Natzweiler report, and its effective suppression, stand in stark contrast to the credulity, the confusion, and the blaring publicity that accompanied official reports of alleged gas chambers at Dachau. At first, a US Army photo depicting a GI gazing at a steel door marked with a skull and crossbones and the German words for: "Caution! Gas! Mortal danger! Don't open!," was identified as showing the murder weapon.[16]

Later, however, it was evidently decided that the apparatus in question was merely a standard delousing chamber for clothing, and another alleged gas chamber, this one cunningly disguised as a shower room, was exhibited to American congressmen and journalists as the site where thousands breathed their last. While there exist numerous reports in the press as to the operation of this second "gas chamber," no official report by trained Army investigators has yet surfaced to reconcile such problems as the function of the shower heads: Were they "dummies," or did lethal cyanide gas stream through them? (Each theory has appreciable support in journalistic and historiographical literature.)

As with Dachau, so with Buchenwald, Bergen-Belsen, and the other camps liberated by the Allies in western Germany. There was no end of propaganda about "gas chambers," "gas ovens," and the like, but so far not a single detailed description of the murder weapon and its function, not a single report of the kind that is mandatory for the successful prosecution of any assault or murder case in America at that time and today, has come to light.

Furthermore, a number of Holocaust authorities have now publicly decreed that there were no gassings, no extermination camps in Germany after all. (We are now told that "gassing" and "extermination" camps were located exclusively in what is now Poland, in areas captured by the Soviet Red Army and made off-limits to western investigators.)

Dr. Martin Broszat of the Munich-based Institute for Contemporary History, which is funded by the German government, stated categorically in a 1960 letter to the German weekly *Die Zeit*: "Neither in Dachau nor in Bergen-Belsen nor in Buchenwald were Jews or other prisoners gassed."[17] Professional "Nazi hunter" Simon Wiesenthal stated in 1975 and again in 1993 that "there were no extermination camps on German soil."[18]

Dachau "gas chamber" No. 2, which was once presented to a stunned and grieving world as a weapon that claimed hundreds of thousands of

lives, is now described in the brochure issued to tourists at the modern Dachau "memorial site" in these words: "This gas chamber, camouflaged as a shower room, was not used."[19]

The Propaganda Intensifies

Fifty years after American troops entered Dachau, Buchenwald and other German camps, and trained American investigators established the facts as to what had gone on in them, the government in Washington, the entertainment media in Hollywood, and the print media in New York continue to churn out millions of words and images annually on the horrors of the camps and the infamy of the Holocaust. Despite the fact that, with *the exc*eption of the defeated Confederacy, no enemy of America has ever so suffered so complete and devastating defeat as did Germany in 1945, the mass media and the politicians and bureaucrats behave as if Hitler, his troops, and his concentration camps continue to exist in an eternal present, and our opinion makers continue to distort, through ignorance or malice, the facts about the camps.

Time for the Truth

It is time that the government and the professional historians reveal the facts about Dachau, Buchenwald and the other camps. It is time they let the American public know how the inmates died, and how they didn't die. It is time that the claims of

Buchenwald, May 1945. Jewish children detainees leave the recently liberated camp on a train bound for France.

mass murder by gassing are clarified and investigated in the same manner as any other claims of murder. It is time that the free ride certain groups have enjoyed as the result of unchallenged Holocaust claims be terminated, just as it is time to end the scapegoating of other groups, including Germans, eastern Europeans, the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and the wartime leadership of America and Britain, either for their alleged role in the Holocaust or their supposed failure to stop it.

Above all, it is time that the citizens of this great Republic have the facts about the camps, facts they have a right to know, a right that is fundamental to the exercise of their authority and their will in the governance of their country. As citizens and as taxpayers, Americans of all ethnic backgrounds, of all faiths, have a basic right and an overriding interest in determining the facts of incidents that are deemed by those in positions of power to be significant in determining America's foreign and educational policy, as well as its selection of past events to be memorialized in our civic life.

Today the alleged facts of the Holocaust are at issue all over the civilized world. The truth will be decided only by recourse to the facts, in the public forum: not by concealing the facts, denying the truth, stonewalling reality. The truth will out, and it is time the government of this country, and governments and international bodies throughout the world, make public the evidence of what actually transpired in the German concentration camps in the years 1933–1945, so that we may put paid to the lies, without fear or favor, and carry out the work of reconciliation and renewal that is and must be the granite foundation of mutual tolerance between peoples and of a peace based on justice.

Summary

The conclusions of the early US Army investigations as to the truth about the wartime German concentration camps have since been corroborated by all subsequent investigators and can be summarized:

1. The harrowing scenes of dead and dying inmates were not the result of a German policy of "extermination," but rather the result of epidemics of typhus and other disease brought about largely by the effects of Allied aerial attacks.

2. Stories of Nazi supercriminals and sadists who turned Jews and others into handbags and lampshades for their private profit or amusement were sick lies or diseased fantasies; indeed, the German authorities punished corruption and cruelty on the part of camp commanders and guards.

3. On the other hand, portrayals of the newly liberated inmates as saints and martyrs of Hitlerism were quite often very far from the truth; indeed, most of the brutalities inflicted on camp detainees were the work of their fellow prisoners, in contravention of German policy and German orders.

4. The alleged homicidal showers and gas chambers were used either for bathing camp inmates or delousing their clothes; the claim that they were used to murder Jews or other human beings is a contemptible fabrication. Orthodox, Establishment historians and professional "Nazi-hunters" have quietly dropped claims that inmates were gassed at Dachau, Buchenwald and other camps in Germany. They continue, however, to keep silent regarding the lies about Dachau and Buchenwald, as well as to evade an open discussion of the evidence for homicidal gassing at Auschwitz and the other camps captured by the Soviets.

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"Holocaust Pressure Groups Shut Down Japan's *Marco Polo* Magazine," a 30-page IHR Special Report, is available from the Institute for a minimum donation of $20.

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World War II — The

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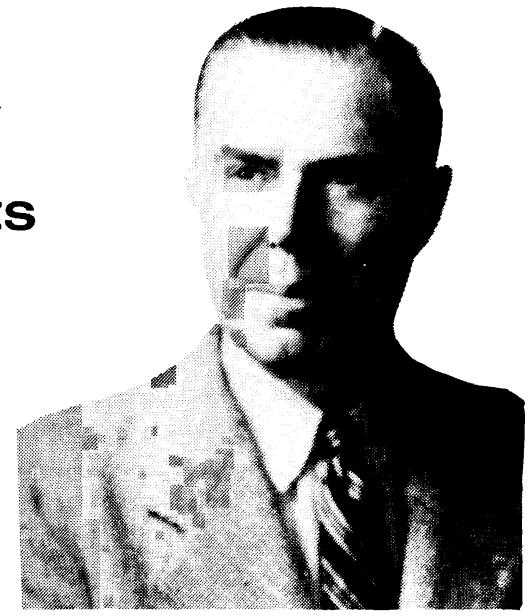

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Its republication by the Institute in 1983 was an event, and not merely because IHR's version included Harry Elmer Barnes' uncannily prophetic essay on "1984" trends in American policy and public life (considered too controversial for conservatives and anti-Communists in the early 50's). It was hailed by the international Revisionist community, led by Dr. James J. Martin, the Dean of living Historical Revisionists, who wrote:

> **It is the republication of books such as *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace* which does so much to discommode and annoy the beneficiaries of the New World Order.**

Discommode and annoy the enemies of historical truth and freedom of research it did — virtually the entire stock of ***Perpetual War*** was destroyed in the terrorist arson attack on the Institute's offices and warehouse on the Orwellian date of July 4, 1984.

Today, the Institute for Historical Review is proud to be able once more to make this enduring, phoenix-like classic available to you, and to our fellow Americans. It can silence the lies about World War II, and thus the bombs and bullets our interventionist rulers plan — for our own American troops no less than the enemy — in the Middle East, Europe, Africa, Asia, or wherever else the interventionist imperative imposed by World War II may lead us.

Harry Elmer Barnes (1889–1968), American historian and sociologist, was one of this century's most influential scholars. He was a major figure in developing the school of history writing known as "revisionist." During the 1920s he played a leading role in overturning the propaganda myth of sole or primary German responsibility for the First World War.

Even after the drastic change in intellectual fashions during the 1940s, Barnes remained true to his principles. During the final decades of his life, he came under ever more stern rebuke for his revisionist debunking of official claims about the Second World War and the Cold War.

Barnes authored many books and countless articles and reviews, and he taught economics, sociology and history at various institutions of higher learning.

He wrote with remarkable assurance and competence in a range of scholarly fields. Of Barnes *The New Columbia Encyclopedia* (1975) noted: "His wide interests generally centered about the main themes of the development of Western thought and culture. His ability to synthesize information from various fields into an intelligible pattern showing human development profoundly affected the teaching of history."

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Revisionist Global Computer Outreach

IHR 'Cyberspace' Connection Reaches Millions Worldwide, Generates Widespread Attention, Provokes Bigoted Rage

The emergence and rapid growth of the "information superhighway" computer network as a vast global communications forum is dramatically transforming the nature of the international struggle for truth in history and for our basic freedoms. Contributing greatly to the phenomenal growth of the already huge "cyberspace" computer link-up is the Internet, a worldwide network of networks that enables computers of all kinds to communicate directly with each other.

For several years now, individual revisionists — often posting materials published by the Institute for Historical Review — have been reaching hundreds of thousands, if not millions, through such global "on line" computer information providers as America Online, Delphi, GEnie, Prodigy, and Compuserve. During much of 1992, for example, a heated debate on the Holocaust issue raged on public discussion forums on the GEnie and Prodigy systems. Hundreds of messages were being posted daily until, bowing to pressure, the companies shut down the freewheeling discussion forums.

In addition, for some time now a heated debate on the Holocaust issue has raged on Internet newsgroups, especially *alt.revisionism*.

Recently an important new breakthrough was achieved on the Internet that enables information from the Institute for Historical Review to reach an enormous, worldwide audience.

IHR materials can be reached 24 hours a day from any of the 146 countries served by Internet through the World Wide Web (WWW), a new multimedia Internet "on-ramp."

Through his personal Internet "Web page," Greg Raven, associate editor of this *Journal*, has been making an impressive selection of *Journal* articles and reviews and IHR leaflets instantly available to millions around the world, free of censorship by governments or powerful special interest groups.

This Web page includes a listing of every article that has ever appeared in this *Journal*, allowing callers to quickly search for titles and authors. New items are being added as time permits.

Raven's IHR Web page can be accessed at **http://www.kaiwan.com/~greg.ihr**. E-mail messages can be sent to the IHR in care of **greg.ihr@kaiwan.com**. (See also "IHR on the Internet," in the *IHR Update* newsletter, Feb. 1995.)

More than 25 million computers are already connected to the Internet, a figure that has been growing phenomenally in recent months, in large part due to the WWW's ease of use.

Internet users, the great majority of whom are in North America and Western Europe, tend to be exceptionally bright and inquisitive.

The multimedia nature of the World Wide Web means that IHR materials on Raven's Web page are instantly available in an attractive and very readable layout. Internet users around the world can also save IHR material from this Web page on their personal computers for later study, or for reprinting and distribution.

Getting IHR on the Internet has so far been entirely Raven's private spare time project. Because of the tremendous interest already generated by his modest offering of IHR materials, the Institute is seeking funds to make this a priority project.

Revisionist postings on *alt.revisionism* and other electronic public discussion forums, or on the World Wide Web, certainly don't dominate "cyberspace," of course. They are dwarfed by the quantity of anti-revisionist material posted by individuals or provided by such outlets as the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Simon Wiesenthal Center, Israel's Jerusalem One computer, and the Israel government Yad Vashem Holocaust center. At least two Internet services have been organized specifically to counter Holocaust revisionism, including an "academic" Internet "mailing list" by the University of Chicago History Department for persons "who seek to challenge the claims of revisionists."

Media Attention

IHR Internet access has been generating media attention. Three recent highlights:

- A television report about Holocaust revisionism and other supposed Internet "Cyberhate" was broadcast across Canada February 7 on "CBC Primetime Magazine." It included portions of a film interview with Raven conducted earlier in

our office by host Neil MacDonald.

- Portions of a film interview with *Journal* editor Mark Weber were broadcast in February across the US as part of a report on WWOR television "super station" Channel 9, based in New Jersey. The "News Nine Tonight" segment was a deliberately slanted report about supposed "hate" on the Internet. It tried to pin the "hate" label on Holocaust revisionism and the IHR.
- A lengthy, four-column article in the *Los Angeles Times*, May 17, was devoted entirely to the impact of IHR material on the Internet. Raven's IHR "Web page," it reported, "has generated a roaring controversy. Many no doubt well-meaning opponents of Raven and his views want his Internet provider, a private company called Kaiwan, based in Orange County, to toss him off the Net." A "big debate" has been raging about whether Kaiwan should be pressured into cutting off Raven and IHR material.

As the article points out, "the larger issue of Holocaust revisionism has been thrashed out for much longer on the widely available [Internet] newsgroup *alt.revisionism*." Now, though, because "Holocaust denial seems to be spreading on the Internet," a new Web page "dedicated to monitoring and combatting Holocaust denial" has recently been set up.

Greg Raven at an IHR office computer, as seen on a recent Canadian "CBC Primetime Magazine" television report about Holocaust revisionism on the Internet.

Frantic, Bigoted Response

Bigoted special interest groups naturally regard such an unfettered exchange of information and views with fear and apprehension. Major Zionist groups, notably the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), understand the threat to their entrenched interests posed by this vast forum for uncensored exchange of information and ideas.

These enemies of free speech accordingly have been doing everything they can to control this global computer network, and thwart the robust growth of Holocaust revisionism on it.

As early as 1992 the ADL openly boasted in its Frontline newsletter (Jan. 1992) that it was pressuring the Prodigy computer system to nip in the bud any skeptical treatment of the Holocaust issue on its electronic discussion forums. And in September 1992 the GEnie system shut down its new "Auschwitz" discussion forum after just five days, in response to numerous skeptical postings by revisionists.

A report on the Twelfth IHR Conference in the Fall-Winter 1994-95 issue of the Simon Wiesenthal Center's glossy magazine, *Response*, focused on the Institute's increasing ability to get out its message through the Internet.

Similarly, articles in the Spring 1995 *Response* singled out the Institute, expressing particular anxiety over the IHR's impact through the Internet.

Wiesenthal Center Associate Dean Rabbi Abraham Cooper, writing in the *Los Angeles Times*, April 16, expressed alarm about the growing Internet influence of the Institute for Historical Review ("the leading voice of Holocaust denial in the United States") and other "hate groups." Cooper cited the IHR's new Internet Web site, and concluded his lengthy essay with a vague call for action to ban the IHR and other inconvenient voices from the Internet.

Recently the Wiesenthal Center set up a "CyberWatch Hotline, asking users to "to report any incidents of antisemitism, racism or other forms of bigotry that you have experienced."

Journal associate editor Greg Raven promptly responded: "I have been receiving hate messages over the Internet almost every week for the last few months, nearly all of them from anonymous and untraceable sources. Many of the messages threaten my life, and all of them refer to me using intolerant, bigoted terms."

So far the Wiesenthal Center has not responded to Raven's report.

A four-page letter from the Wiesenthal Center sent out to its vast mailing list in March 1995 warned that "Holocaust deniers with their insidious tracts, ranging from the 'scholarly' to the outlandish," along with other "bigots," are making "alarmingly effective" use of the Internet.

"In response to this alarming, almost exponential, rise of computer hate," the letter continued, "the Wiesenthal Center is conducting an extensive global investigation to determine...the steps that can be taken to stop these dangerous haters at home

and abroad... We will work together with legislative and judicial bodies here and around the world in order develop strategies to combat high-tech bigots."

Translation: The Center is doing everything in its power to ban dissident views on the Holocaust issue from the worldwide computer linkup.

Ominously, both the Wiesenthal Center and the Canadian government's "Human Rights Commission" candidly admit that their goal is to totally shut off all access to revisionist facts and arguments.

Growing Importance

Because of its worldwide scope and the absence of any central control, the Internet is difficult to police, even in countries where Holocaust revisionism is prohibited by law. As a result, would-be censors have so far been unable to seriously hamper the Institute's Internet outreach.

As the worldwide computer network plays an ever more significant role in international communications, and as the struggle over basic social values represented by the Holocaust debate intensifies, Jewish-Zionist groups will doubtless step up their efforts to silence the Institute for Historical Review and similar dissident voices.

Cyberspace will almost certainly become an even more critically important battleground in the global struggle for historical truth and freedom of thought and expression.

Dan Gannon at his computer terminal.

"Truth conquers all things."

— Roman proverb

Computer Prodigy Pioneers Cyberspace Revisionism

From the bedroom of his tidy, modest home in Portland, Oregon, a soft-spoken young computer prodigy named Dan Gannon has been stirring things up around the globe. Jewish-Zionist groups in the United States, and government officials in Europe, have been keeping a close watch on his controversial messages, which are accessed by computers around the world.

Since October 1988 he has devoted tremendous time and energy publishing revisionist materials and arguments on international computer networks. If anyone deserves to be called the pioneer of Holocaust revisionism on the worldwide computer networks, it is Gannon.

As many as two million persons around the world, Gannon estimates, have seen at least some of his postings.

If printed on paper, his posted messages, and the debate responses they've generated, would fill more than 6,000 pages.

Gannon has transcribed and made electronically available more than 150 revisionist articles and other items into the system, many of them from the IHR. "Sourced information, like the scholarly articles found in the IHR *Journal*, is by far the most useful" material, he says.

In 1993, Gannon was reaching hundreds of thousands over the Usenet "news groups" section of the Internet. Holocaust revisionism, he reported in late 1993, is one of the five best known and most popular Usenet topics, and was probably also one of the three most intensely debated.

Reflecting the highly emotional treatment of the Holocaust issue in motion pictures, television and other media, anti-revisionists typically respond to the postings by Gannon and other revisionists with hateful name-calling, vile invective, and sloppy, irrational arguments. "For a few years I was getting a lot of death threats — about 500 per year," he says.

In August 1991 Gannon started his own computer bulletin board system (BBS), "Banished CPU." Because several "provider" firms cut off his BBS from their networks, he has had to operate "Banished CPU" as a local BBS.

Gannon's activism has attracted media attention. Some television reports have been viciously slanted, deliberately misrepresenting what he actually says, and even giving the utterly false impression that he promotes criminal violence.

Relatively more objective was a February 1995 television report about Holocaust revisionism and other supposed Internet "Cyberhate" that was broadcast across Canada on "CBC Primetime Magazine." It included portions of a film interview with

Gannon conducted at his home in Portland by host Neil MacDonald.

Gannon's activism is not confined to the computer. He has arranged for the showing of the video "David Cole Interviews Dr. Franciszek Piper" in college classes at two Portland-area campuses. He also arranged for this video to be broadcast on local public access cable television. (It was shown on the most limited-area public access channel, on the pretext that it was "made in a foreign country," a reference to a portion filmed at Auschwitz in Poland.)

Gannon has also distributed about a thousand revisionist leaflets in the Portland area, including Fred Leuchter's "Inside the Auschwitz 'Gas Chambers'" (published by the IHR), and an illustrated IHR advertisement for the Cole/Piper video.

Gannon's e-mail address is:

dgannon@banished.com.

He can also be reached at P.O. Box 90151, Portland, OR 97290, USA.

My 'Invasion' of the Computer Networks

DAN GANNON

I first heard about Holocaust revisionism from my grandfather in October 1988. I read several leaflets put out by the IHR and a few articles from the IHR *Journal*. My first impression was one of mixed shock, disbelief and curiosity. What I read was so much at variance with what I had been taught with such repetition and zeal all of my life that I didn't know what to make of it. Then the seriousness of the whole matter dawned on me, and I began to think that some things might be seriously wrong.

Being a 17-year-old idealist, and much more naive than I am now, I first thought that surely this dispute over the facts had either already been settled, or would soon be settled in an honest discussion between recognized historical experts, and that the truth would shortly be proven and announced in the media for all to see.

Even then, however, I could see that revisionists had encountered an extreme amount of suppression, dishonesty, slander, legal persecution and even violence. So I decided to get personally involved and see what honest help I could lend in settling the matter.

Thrilling at the possibility of helping to set the historical record straight in a major way, I took the issue to the computer networks, which I had discovered about a year earlier. I chose the WWIV international computer network, to which I already had access. With mixed feelings of curiosity, doubt and defiance, I publicly invited discussion on the subject.

In my first message I mentioned that I recently had come across some well-referenced information that, among other things, indicated that six million Jews were not murdered by the Nazis during World War II, the Nazis did not gas anybody in homicidal gas chambers, and the Anne Frank "Diary" might be a forgery. I also asserted that the Holocaust story was being exploited as an enormous financial and political scam, and the mass media appears to be controlled by a powerful, cohesive group of unscrupulous individuals who abuse their power to an alarming degree. I expected rational discussion and debate, but received something very different.

What I got was a great quantity of vicious name-calling, false accusations of ill will and dishonesty, numerous death threats and all forms of untruth and fallacy. Some people made shrill, vague statements about "the pictures" and "the eyewitness testimonies," and how they simply could not believe that I could be so evil.

After about seven months of posting revisionist arguments on the WWIV network, the Holocaust lobby succeeded in exerting enough pressure to deprive me of access to that network, despite the fact that those who run it claimed to support freedom of speech.

In August 1991, with my grandfather's help, I started my own bulletin board system (BBS), "Banished CPU." This BBS is not about "hate." It is about truth and intellectual freedom, and it supports freedom of speech.

More than 8,000 files are available for downloading on "Banished CPU." Although it provides information on a wide range of subjects, it is clearly the Holocaust revisionist material that is considered the most objectionable and "dangerous." Because of pressure, "service provider" firms broke their agreements and dropped my BBS. No longer tied into any network, I operated "Banished CPU" as a local BBS for many months. In the summer of 1995, I set up to became my own Internet provider, with a high-speed link to MCI's Internet backbone.

Thanks to my grandfather, I no longer have to transcribe revisionist articles by hand. I now have a nice flat-bed scanner and high-quality software that enable me to scan articles electronically instead of typing them manually. They still require a little editing (mostly just formatting), but the scanner makes entering articles into the computer much faster and easier. It also allows me to scan pictures (color or black and white) with a high degree of detail.

Generally I've been happy with the response to "Banished CPU." Typically I receive several hundred inquiries each month. Since starting my BBS,

it has received more than 157,000 calls.

Much of the media coverage of my activities vilifies and grossly misrepresents me and what I say. A good example was a CBS television news report broadcast December 26, 1988, which described my work as an "invasion" of the computer networks. It portrayed me as a purveyor of racial hatred — even though I've made no statements whatsoever in support of racism, but have in fact denounced racism (and all other forms of prejudice) on several occasions.

On November 13, 1992, a local KATU television news report portrayed me as "dangerous" and "scary," and falsely suggested that I use my BBS to sell information on how to commit crimes. For melodramatic effect and to frighten the public, it included film clips from the movie "Rambo," which showed "Rambo" blowing up a jeep and several buildings in huge fiery explosions.

An article in *The New York Times*, April 30, 1993, also mentioned my BBS activism in an extremely inaccurate and negative way. More recently, MTV cable television broadcast a special report on "hate groups" that dishonestly included footage from my BBS.

Such media reports seek to stigmatize and ostracize me and anyone else who provides access to suppressed information. They fail to mention that "Banished CPU" supports freedom of speech and that it provides information on a wide range of subjects. These reports also carefully avoid discussing specific revisionist arguments.

I have given up responding to the constant personal attacks and irrelevant bickerings of the opposition. I usually just ignore such attempts to divert attention from the real issues. If I were to answer all of the outlandish accusations of my enemies, I would have no time to do anything else.

Tax-Exempt Donations to IHR

Friends of the Institute can now support its work, *and* deduct the donation from their income for tax purposes. Through a special not-for-profit, tax deductible account, you can donate to our cause and take a tax deduction (as allowable under law).

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Please also consider a generous bequest to the Institute when making your will or trust. Friends of the IHR have greatly helped to further the Institute's work by remembering it in wills and trusts. For further information, please contact Greg Raven at our office.

The Institute in the News

In addition to the attention generated because of the impact of its materials on the Internet, the Institute for Historical Review has been attracting other recent media attention. A few highlights:

- A brief but error-packed item about the Institute appeared prominently in *The Washington Post*, May 11, under the headline "The Neo-Nazi Network." With blatant disregard for elementary facts, the IHR was cited, along with three other individuals or groups, as a "primary source" of "Nazi propaganda material" sent to Germany.

  The six-line item contained not only factual errors, but misrepresented the IHR as the "Institute for Historic [sic] Review." Predictably, the *Post* declined to publish a letter from the IHR correcting the errors.
- *Journal* editor Mark Weber appeared February 19 as a guest on the "America First Radio," an hour-long shortwave radio talk show hosted by Harry Bertran and sponsored by *The Populist Observer* (P.O. Box 15499, Pittsburgh, PA 15237).
- The Institute was mentioned several times in a news report broadcast May 28 on National Public Radio's "Weekend Edition/ Sunday" program. Speaking from Rome, the NPR reporter described the IHR as "the most active source of Holocaust denial material in the world," and misleadingly lumped it together with "American white supremacists" and "neo-Nazi groups." With a tone of alarm, the Institute's international conferences and worldwide Internet outreach were also cited.
- *Journal* editor Mark Weber was smeared in a made-for-television movie, "The Infiltrator," broadcast over the HBO television network on June 24. This crude, lie-packed "dramatization" about neo-Nazis in Germany, attempts to portray the Simon Wiesenthal Center as a courageous, principled fighter of "hate." Jewish comedian Alan King, in the role of Wiesenthal Center "Dean" Rabbi Marvin Hier, calls Weber a "big-time fascist."
- An essay by former *Journal* editor Theodore O'Keefe, "The US Holocaust Memorial Museum: A Costly and Dangerous Mistake," was reprinted in full in the March-April 1995 issue of *Social Justice Review*, a thoughtful traditionalist Roman Catholic journal published bimonthly by the Catholic Central Union, 3835 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo. 63108. O'Keefe's essay also appeared in the March-April 1995 *Journal*.
- Steven Frogue, a high school history teacher in southern California, has come under fire for saying that the IHR's view of the Holocaust story deserves serious consideration. In an interview with the Irvine Valley College student newspaper, Frogue expressed the view that the Institute has "raised

questions" about the Holocaust story that should "enter the debate."

Frogue teaches history at Foothill High School in Tustin and is a member of the Saddleback Community College district board. A report on the matter in the *Orange County Register*, April 4, appeared under the headline "Teacher's View of Holocaust Stirs Furor."

• A front-page article in the *Wall Street Journal*, April 28, about "extremist" groups "in the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing" cites the Institute for Historical Review by name as a dangerous "far-right group."

In fact, far from being a fomenter of "hate" or illegal activity, as the nationally-distributed daily suggest, the IHR has been a repeated *target* of terrorists. (For details, see *The Zionist Terror Network*, a 20-page illustrated booklet, available from the IHR for $5.50, postpaid.)

• Sometimes they get it right. After persistent urging, local newspapers have been describing the IHR and its work more accurately, dropping the silly "Holocaust denial" and "Holocaust denier" labels. For example, the *Los Angeles Times* (Orange County edition), June 25, describes the IHR as "a think tank known best for its claims that accounts of the Holocaust are exaggerated."

Playwrights Take Aim at Revisionism

The Institute's work, and the growing impact of Holocaust revisionism, are under fire in two new theatrical productions.

"Blue Light," a play by Jewish novelist Cynthia Ozick, is described in the *Detroit Jewish News*, February 3, as a new play that "shines a light on those who assert the Holocaust never happened; it is beacon of bravery, the writer armed for the battle with truths against Holocaust bashers...." The play "is not trying to convert the converted," says Ozick, but is instead meant "for non-Jews." Prominent Hollywood film director Sidney Lumet is working with Ozick to bring "Blue Light" to the Broadway stage with a "stellar cast" of Oscar-award actors.

"Denial," an anti-revisionist play by Jewish writer Peter Sagal, has premiered at the South Coast Repertory theater in Costa Mesa, California. In a *Los Angeles Times* interview (March 13), Sagal "pointed out that the Institute for Historical Review is just down the road in Newport Beach, where it serves as a clearinghouse for the notion that the Holocaust never occurred." Among the five characters in his play, Sagal "focuses on a revisionist 'very loosely based' on a Northwestern University engineering professor," a reference to Dr. Arthur Butz, author of *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century.*

Ingrid Weckert's

FLASHPOINT

The Book that Dares to Ask: *Cui bono* (Who Benefitted?) from Reichskristallnacht

Kristallnacht—the attacks on Jewish property throughout Germany in response to the assassination of a German diplomat by a young Jew in Paris — signalled an ominous turning point in relations between the Third Reich and international Jewry.

But what was the *real* story of the shooting in Paris? Was Herschel Grynszpan a "lone gunman"? Or was he commanded by shadowy backers? And what was the role of Vladimir Jabotinsky, mentor to Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir?

Who bears the responsibility for the riots? Was it Hitler? Goebbels? The German people? Or a shadowy cabal of provocateurs?

Historian Ingrid Weckert asks — and answers—these bold questions in ***Flashpoint***, her gripping investigation of the instigators, victims, and beneficiaries of *Kristallnacht.*

Meticulously researched, ***Flashpoint*** places the momentous events of early November, 1938 firmly within the much-neglected context of German-Jewish relations (above all the surprising collaboration between Hitler's Germany and the Zionists). Yet it reads like an international thriller!

No one with an interest in the Third Reich, Zionism and the Jews can afford to ignore ***Flashpoint.***

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More Student Papers Publish Smith's 'Open Debate' Advertisement

During the 1994–95 academic year, Bradley Smith — probably America's most prominent revisionist activist — succeeded in publishing a large-size advertisement calling for open debate on the Holocaust issue in 17 student newspapers across the country.

Through his "Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust" (CODOH), Smith has been publishing these ads since 1991 as part of his "Campus Project" campaign. With limited resources, and defying a well-organized campaign of bigotry, intimidation and smears by such prominent Jewish-Zionist groups as the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Anti-Defamation League, Smith succeeded in focusing considerable national attention on Holocaust revisionism and the one-sided nature of the Holocaust lobby campaign.

During the 1994–95 school year, Smith's CODOH advertisement — headed "A Revisionist Challenge to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum" — appeared in student papers at 17 colleges and universities, including Oberlin College (Ohio), the University of New Orleans, State University of New York at Binghamton, Wittenberg University (Ohio), and Northeastern University (Boston). In April and May 1995 alone, Smith estimates, some 250,000 college students and faculty members read his "Open Debate" ad.

Smith and his free speech campaign first attracted nationwide notoriety during the 1991–92 school year, when he published his CODOH ad in 17 student papers. This provoked intense debate on many campuses and brought widespread media notoriety. Smith's campaign gained even greater attention during the 1993–94 school year, when his CODOH ad was published, in one form or another, in at least 35 college and university student papers, as well as in one major metropolitan daily.

Publication of Smith's ad touched off heated discussion and emotional student protest meetings by Jewish and leftist groups on a number of campuses that, in turn, generated widespread newspaper, magazine and television coverage. One result of all this was Bradley Smith's March 1994 appearance as a guest on the "Donahue" television talk show. (See the May–June 1994 *Journal*, pages 19–20.)

For more about Smith's "Campus Project," including a facsimile reproduction of his CODOH ad, see the detailed report in the July–August 1994 *Journal*, pages 18–24. Smith and CODOH can be reached at P.O. Box 3267, Visalia, CA 93278.

American Troops Liberate Dachau, April 1945

DACHAU
Reality and Myth

When American GIs liberated the infamous Dachau concentration camp on April 29, 1945, they were horrified by the corpses they found there, and readily believed stories of mass killings in a camp "gas chamber." As John Cobden explains in this easy to read overview, the real story of the camp is quite different than the widely accepted legend.

Few know, for example, that even after the American's took over Dachau, prisoners continued to die in large numbers–nearly ten percent of all deaths at the camp took place after liberation.

Over the years, former Dachau inmates have told "eyewitness" stories of terrible atrocities committed in the camp, including "gas chamber" killings of thousands of prisoners.

In ***Dachau: Reality and Myth***, however, these tales disintegrate under close examination. Cutting through a fog of confusion, deception and politics, here is the true story of Dachau, including how the "official" history of the Third Reich's first and best-known concentration camp has changed dramatically over the years. Written with passionate devotion to truth and sensitivity for the suffering of the camp's victims, ***Dachau: Reality and Myth*** systematically debunks a major historical legend.

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by John Cobden
52 pages • Photos • ISBN: 0-939484-49-8
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Two or more copies $4.50 each postpaid

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Remer Seeks Asylum in Spain

To evade a 22-month jail sentence in Germany for "denying the Holocaust," a retired German general has fled his homeland and is living in exile. Otto-Ernst Remer, a highly decorated Second World War officer, arrived in February 1994 in Spain, where he is seeking political asylum.

In November 1993 the German Federal High Court upheld an earlier district court sentence that found Remer guilty of "popular incitement" and "incitement to racial hatred" because of statements disputing gas chamber claims that appeared in five issues of a tabloid paper that bears his name, *Remer Depesche*. (See the March–April 1993 *Journal*, pp. 29–30, and the May–June 1994 *Journal*, pp. 42–43.)

To dispute claims of mass killings in wartime concentration camps is regarded in Germany today as a criminal attack against all Jews, who enjoy a privileged status there.

"There were no [execution] gas chambers," Remer reaffirmed as he left Germany. "I stand by the expert report of Germar Rudolf," he added, referring to detailed forensic report of a young German chemist who has himself become a victim of Germany's legal system because of his views. (On the "Rudolf Report," see the Nov.–Dec. 1993 *Journal*, pp. 25–26. See also Rudolf's statement in the Nov.–Dec. 1994 *Journal*, pp. 14–15.)

On the basis of an international arrest warrant issued at the initiative of German officials, Remer was arrested by Spanish police on June 1, 1994, in Malaga. He was on his way to Madrid for a meeting at the Spanish Interior Ministry to argue his case for political asylum. A senior Spanish judge ordered Remer's immediate release pending a decision on his asylum application. Remer's transgression is not a crime in Spain, the judge declared. Spanish law forbids extradition for political crimes, except in cases of terrorism or similarly violent acts.

As a young officer in command of the Berlin guard regiment in July 1944, Remer played a key role in putting down the ill-fated attempt by conspirators to kill Hitler and seize power in a violent coup. Remer was promoted, eventually to General, and at the end of the war was serving as a commander in Pomerania. Wounded eight times in battle, he was awarded numerous military decorations for his extraordinary courage and daring in combat, including the Knight's Cross with Oak Leaves.

Media coverage of the Remer case has often been biased and inaccurate. For example, Remer is frequently referred to as an "SS man" or an "SS general." In fact, he was never associated with the SS.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center has announced its intention to "apply pressure" on Germany to force Remer's extradition from Spain.

With his wife, Anneliese, and a friend, the 82-year-old, wheelchair-bound Otto-Ernst Remer arrives in Spain on February 5, 1994. He fled his homeland to evade a 22-month prison sentence in Germany for the "thought crime" of "Holocaust denial." He has applied for political asylum in Spain.

Agitation for Remer's arrest followed his appearance on Spanish television, in which he reaffirmed his view that there were no wartime gas chamber killings of Jews. Appearing with him on Spanish television was Gerd Honsik, a native of Austria who publishes the German-language newsletter *Halt!*. In May 1992 Honsik was sentenced by a Vienna criminal court to 18 months imprisonment for rejecting claims of wartime killings of Jews in gas chambers. To evade this sentence, he fled to Spain.

In June 1993 Austrian authorities asked Interpol to execute a warrant for Honsik's arrest. In a rare show of defiance, Interpol rejected the application because the political nature of the offense. In July 1994 an Austrian judge declared that the charges against Honsik are "typical of precisely those which are to be regarded as political offenses." Honsik continues to publish his newsletter in Spain.

Remer addressed the Eighth IHR Conference in 1987. (His Conference presentation is available on both audio- and videotape from the IHR.) Remer's essay, "My Role in Berlin on July 20, 1994," was published in the Spring 1988 *Journal*.

Gas chamber proof discovered

VIENNA: Historians have found what they say is the first technical proof that the nazis used gas chambers to exterminate concentration camp victims during World War II.

"It is to my knowledge the only piece of technical equipment from gas chambers found until now. This is a major discovery," said historian Florian Freund. The discovery was of a ventilator used to pump poison into gas chambers at the Mauthausen concentration camp 120km west of Vienna.

He said it was part of a body of evidence refuting revisionists' claims that gas chambers never existed because there was no technical proof.

In the last months of 1945, the nazis had destroyed all trace of the equipment from gas chambers.

Freund said historians discovered the Mauthausen ventilator in the Czech Republic, thanks to a photograph taken in May 1945.

Revisionist View Confirmed

Two historians in Austria recently made public what they say is the "first technical proof" that gas chambers were used to kill prisoners in German camps during the Second World War. This "major discovery" is a ventilator fan.

In the face of the revisionist challenge, historians have for several years been searching for just one such bit of proof.

The newspaper report reproduced here appeared in the *Sunday Times* of Perth, western Australia, April 30, 1995, p. 7. Similar reports appeared in the Austrian magazine *Profil* (May 8, p. 7), the French newspaper *Var-Matin* (April 29, p. 15), and possibly elsewhere.

Professor Robert Faurisson, Europe's foremost revisionist scholar, comments:

> If historians Florian Freund and Bertrand Perz had consulted specialists, they would know that this ventilator fan is no proof at all of homicidal killings. They would have learned that "Degesch system" delousing or disinfestation gas chambers — which were in widespread use in Europe during the Second World War, including at many camps — were routinely equipped with ventilator fans.

This "discovery" is significant for another reason, Faurisson points out. Without intending it, Freund and Perz implicitly confirm that the revisionists have been right all along about a critically important historical point: for the past 50 years, no Holocaust researcher had supplied even a single "technical proof" for the existence of Nazi execution gas chambers.

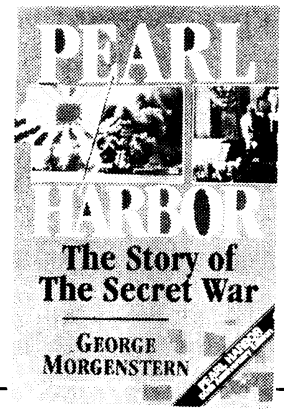
This item also implicitly confirms that not a single "technical proof" has been discovered proving the existence of Nazi execution gas chambers at Auschwitz (including Birkenau), supposedly the most notorious wartime extermination center.

For half a century, revisionists who have said what this matter-of-fact news item now reports were insulted, smeared, and even punished by courts. Moreover, for five decades, Germans have been put on trial, sentenced and punished for their supposed involvement in gas chamber killings of millions — without even a single technical proof.

In April 1989, American execution hardware specialist Fred Leuchter inspected the supposed "gas chamber" at Mauthausen, the camp where the newly-discovered fan had been used. In a technical report he concluded that no one was ever killed at this alleged gassing facility, nor could they have been. See: F. Leuchter and R. Faurisson, "The Second Leuchter Report," *Journal of Historical Review*, Fall 1990, pp. 261–322.

PEARL HARBOR
The Story of the Secret War
by George Morgenstern

Hailed by Revisionist giants Barnes, Beard, and Tansill when it appeared shortly after World War II, this classic remains unsurpassed as a one-volume treatment of America's Day of Infamy. Morgenstern's *Pearl Harbor* is the indispensable introduction to the question of who bears the blame for the Pearl Harbor surprise, and, more important, for America's entry through the "back door" into World War II. Attractive new IHR softcover edition with introduction by James J. Martin. 425 pp., index, biblio., maps, $14.95 + $2.50 shipping.



Who Bombs *Children?*

NICHOLAS STRAKON

After the Oklahoma City bombing, ordinary Americans all over the country were asking in bewildered horror, "Who bombs *children*?" I can answer that question without having a scrap of evidence about who really employed Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, the accused bombers. I can answer it not because I am so smart but because it is so easy.

My answer is: the United States government, among others.

With regard to war and the state, many Americans wander in a fog of mystification — or, to put it not so generously, in a moral stupor. For heaven's sake, the Oklahoma City bombing occurred a mere 19 days before the 50th anniversary of V-E Day. It occurred two months after the 50th anniversary of the incineration of Dresden and less than four months before the 50th anniversary of the incineration of Hiroshima. Let us, for once, connect historical events everyone knows about with the values all civilized people are supposed to cherish. Who is the greatest bomber of children if not the state?

When I write that World War II went far toward corrupting the moral sense of the American people, making possible the civilizational collapse we are now witnessing, I do not mean to indict the deceived, the propagandized, or the maleducated. Instead, I mean to suggest that the ruling class has robbed us not only materially but morally as well. And I mean to suggest that we can recapture our moral sense by reading history, recalling the values we were taught as children, and restoring certain vital connections between that history and those values. Americans of today cannot overturn the Permanent Regime, but we can keep it from stealing our souls. So let us remember *all* of what happened in World War II, and let us call mass murder by its right name.

A Juvenile War Fan

I shrink at sounding holier-than-thou, so immediately I offer a *mea culpa*. I was an adolescent World War II buff. I read everything about the war I could lay my hands on, but especially books about the European Theater, where the dictators were cinematic, the music was stirring, the massed tanks were exciting, and glamorous cities were destroyed. In those days, the materials available to me reflected the William Shirer/Time-Life triumphalist-nationalist school, but even those works of propaganda gave strategic bombing at least a glance.

It's safe to say that in 1962 the formative work for any bespectacled, bloodthirsty 13-year-old war fan was the paperback edition of Shirer's *Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*. It certainly was for me. I read my copy until it fell apart, and then I bought another. Now, Shirer, in the three pages — out of a total of 1,483 — that he devotes to the subject of area bombing, describes the destruction only of German "cities" and "homes," as if the inhabitants themselves were magically untouched. And in the entire massive work, he mentions the bombing of Dresden *not once*. He does criticize the bombing of cities — but because it was strategically unproductive, not because it was a monstrous atrocity.

Still, it shouldn't have taken much of a leap of imagination for me to conclude that many children must have been turned into ash in those air raids. Indeed, I may have made that connection; I don't recall. I do recall that a few years later when I started to learn about civilian casualties in Germany and Japan from historians more honest than Shirer, I blamed not Roosevelt, Truman, and Churchill but Hitler and Tojo. Those latter villains forced "us" to kill the civilians! And anyway, those civilians (including the children, I suppose) had it coming for supporting Hitler and Tojo.

It is difficult to compartmentalize moral numbness, and mine infected more than just my understanding of World War II. After 1945, Western propaganda ministries abruptly dropped their loving descriptions of Stalin as the kindly, brave, pipe-smoking "Uncle Joe" and transformed the Soviet people from "our glorious, fraternal, democratic allies" into our most fearsome, loathsome enemy. It was an act of massive rectification that no doubt served as the principal inspiration for George Orwell's parables in *1984*, where the dread enemy might change in mid-speech from Eurasia to Eastasia, whereupon the people of Oceania were obliged instantly to adopt the belief that "Oceania is at war with Eastasia ... Oceania has always been at war with Eastasia."

In any event, as a good citizen groping toward intellectual consistency in 1967, I justified a surprise nuclear attack on Soviet cities — the old "throw a thousand missiles over the pole" strategy — by arguing that the Soviet people had a moral imperative to overthrow their wicked regime, and if they didn't, they (the children, too, I suppose) deserved whatever "we" had to do to them in the

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Nicholas Strakon is the pen name of the editor of *Dispatches from The Last Ditch*, a newsletter. (P.O. Box 224, Roanoke, IN 46783. $42 for twelve issues. Free sample available on request.) "Who Bombs Children?" and "The Bombardier's Song" are reprinted from the April–May 1995 issue.

Victims of an Allied bombing raid on Berlin, December 1943, are laid out for identification in a gymnasium incongruously decorated with Christmas trees. An estimated 50,000 to 60,000 Berliners perished in Allied air attacks. More than half a million Germans civilians were killed in Allied bombing attacks during the Second World War. In addition, Allied bombers took the lives of many tens of thousands of civilians in France, Italy, Hungary, Belgium and other European countries.

course of extirpating communism. That is what I had learned from my studies of World War II, and that is the tortured way I went about making it comport with what I had learned about good and evil in Sunday School. It *had* to comport somehow, or everything I believed about the sanctity of the United State would be threatened.

Eventually, I found a better way to integrate what I knew of history with what I believed about freedom, justice, slavery, and murder. A late-blooming moral Columbus, I discovered America the beautiful, and had done with the hideous United State and its grisly works.

Kill a Child for FDR and Uncle Joe

The government of the United State is surely the champion bomber of children in world history, with the British Imperial regime secure in second place. Some writers tell us that the Eighth and Fifteenth air forces didn't do much terror bombing, as such, in Europe until late 1944 or early 1945, but in fact American air forces became full partners with Britain's terroristic Bomber Command much earlier. The difference was that the Americans at first tended to bomb cities for tactical reasons — that is, to clear the way for their armies; or for reasons of economic strategy — that is, to shatter industry and infrastructure. The resulting massacre of civilians was merely "collateral damage." Unintended. Just accidental: "Ooops! There goes another orphanage! Sorry! Thought it was a power plant. Don't worry, when it's all over, we'll pass out choon gum, chocolate, and Lucky Strikes to the kids, if any survive." The fliers didn't restrict their activities to Germany, by the way: they wrecked cities in Italy, France, and Belgium as well. It was, one supposes, a case of having to destroy those cities in order to liberate them.[1]

By the last months of the war in Europe, the American bomber force did resort to outright terror bombing. For example, the courageous Eighth Air Force took over from the heroic Brits on the second day of the destruction of Dresden, a city with no AA guns but a million helpless refugees. And David Irving writes of another noble military operation no doubt vital to winning the war: "To exploit the refugee chaos in Berlin, the Americans sent over nine hundred heavy bombers at noon on February 3 [1945] ... The city's casualties were immense."[2]

In the Pacific Theater, the United State had no close rival in child-bombing: it ran the Allies' only major air force, and that force rained havoc and death on a scale that made the raids conducted on Chinese civilians by Japan's rickety bomber force look like juvenile vandalism.[3]

(Other nations win prizes in other classes of heroic, valorous endeavor. For instance, that Red Army whose glorious achievements the Clintons celebrated in Moscow the other day qualifies, at least in the European Theater, as the No. 1 Rapist — of women *and* children.)

The Butcher's Bill

How many children, in both theaters, did the United State and British Imperialist air forces slaughter? I've dabbled in a little demography in an effort to come up with a figure. Douglas Botting, in *From the Ruins of the Reich,* estimates that Allied bombing killed 500,000 civilians in Germany, not counting another 100,000 civilians killed in the land warfare, which included another type of bombing — artillery bombardment.[4] The 500,000 figure seems decidedly conservative in light of estimates that 250,000 were killed in the raids on Dresden alone (February 1314, 1945).[5] But let it stand for our present purpose. In *War Without Mercy* (p. 298), John Dower calculates that American saturation bombing of 66 Japanese cities killed 393,000 civilians. Say, then, that about 893,000 civilians were killed in air attacks on Germany and Japan. (I omit civilians murdered by the "liberation" air forces in Italy, France, and the Low Countries.)

Census figures indicate that in 1970, children 14 or younger made up approximately 28 percent of the U.S. population.[6] It is reasonable to assume that the cohort of German and Japanese children was proportionally larger in the 1940s — a time of larger families and shorter life expectancy — but, again, let the conservative estimate stand.

If 28 percent of the victims were age 14 and younger, we end with an estimated butcher's bill of about 250,000 children murdered by American and British fliers. Extrapolating from the total figures, we can assume, roughly, that 44 percent of the murdered children were Japanese and 56 percent were German. If all the murdered Japanese children were murdered by Americans, for 44 percent of the total, and — at a guess — a third of the murdered German children were murdered by Americans, for another 18.67 percent of the total, we arrive at a figure of 62.67 percent or 156,675 children murdered by Americans, and 37.33 percent or 93,325 murdered by the British.

156,675 children! Call to mind the child the whole world saw in the Oklahoma City fireman's arms — and then imagine having to see a different child suffocated or crushed or incinerated on the front page of your daily paper every day for almost *429 years!*

I don't mince words, because this must be clear: it wasn't "bombing" or "air raids" or "airplanes" that accounted for those homicides. It was the government employees crewing the planes. B-17s don't bomb people; people bomb people. Some crewmen were conscripts, "serving" with a gun in their back; but the pilots, navigators, and bombardiers were officers. Doing what they did should ignite 50 years' worth of fiery nightmares, for anyone with a moral imagination.

Hey, Hey, LBJ ...

I could not compartmentalize my moral numbness, and neither could other Americans. It infected our evaluation of other public calamities. For every youngster in the '60s who chanted, "Hey, hey, LBJ, how many kids did you kill today?" there had to be a hundred Americans who never gave a second thought to those "collateral losses" produced by the strategic bombing of Vietnam. In fact, many probably thought the chanting kids ought to be lynched for insulting "our" president. (In the end, the war did become quite unpopular with most adults, but primarily because they didn't care to have their sons' tails shot off by an unbeatable enemy, not because of any holocaust of underage Oriental Commies.)

Worse: although it was no secret, in 1983, that the battleship New Jersey had bombarded unseen Lebanese villages with its 16-inch guns, most Americans were *surprised* when, in response, Shiite soldiers gave their lives to blow up the Marine barracks in Beirut. The ugliest thing wasn't that Americans failed to take seriously the murdering of the villagers — including children — by US sailors, but that they didn't even expect the *Lebanese* to take those homicides seriously enough to want to strike back. In fact, they thought of the avengers as typical Ayrab fanatics for carrying out their strike! Apparently, only Americans are allowed to be outraged when their civilians and children are murdered. Such an attitude reveals not merely a lapse, but the death, of the moral imagination.

It Can't Happen Here

Writing without regard to nationality, I believe I have made my case that the United States is the greatest bomber of children in history. That is all I wanted to demonstrate in order to shed some light on this odd season of terror and celebration, and it is all I can demonstrate. I have no secret knowledge, only black suspicions, about what happened in Oklahoma City. However, for the benefit of those who object that the children bombed to death in World War II were, after all, mere *foreigners,* and that "It (government child-bombing) can't happen here," I go on to suggest that just as the popular vocabulary, from curse words to the names of ethnic groups, has undergone considerable rectification in recent decades, so the definition of "us" and "them"

On makeshift grids of steel girders, heaped bodies of victims of the Dresden firestorm air raid were cremated in large bonfires. Some two thousand British and American bombers took part in the devastating attack, February 13–14, 1945. So intense was the heat of the firestorm created in the raid that rivers of molten asphalt flowed through the streets. Conservative estimates put the number of victims at 135,000 — the great majority of them civilians. Authoritative sources estimate that as many as 300,000 perished in the raid.

At the time of the attack Dresden was packed with hundreds of thousands of German women and children fleeing advancing Soviet forces. One of Europe's great cultural and architectural treasures, the German city had no importance as a military target. Mass killing and terrorism were the sole objectives of the Dresden attack, which British diplomat and author Harold Nicolson called "the single greatest holocaust by war."

has changed.

I maintained in "Dark Suits and Red Guards" that, since the completion of the Suits' Managerial Revolution and the rise of the Guards in the '60s, the two wings of the American ruling apparatus have shared a growing contempt, if not a loathing, for us ordinary, unprogressive, provincial Majority Americans. In the conclusion of an earlier article, I envisioned a near-future American regime dispatching Rapid Deployment Force planes with paraquat, Agent Orange, napalm, and anthrax to wipe out backwaters that had become difficult to govern. "Extreme?" I wrote. "But why would we expect our cosmopolitan Suits and Guards to display sentiments toward domestic rubes and yahoos any warmer than those which earlier, nationalistic American elites displayed toward the inhabitants of Dresden, Nagasaki, and Hiroshima?"

Why, indeed? To the elites, what happens to us American "yahoos" at century's end matters as little as what happened to the "grinning yellow monkeys" and "bestial Huns" — of whatever tender age — in the 1940s. How much crippling inflation and taxation — how many policies destroying families, small businesses, small towns, and traditional culture — how much nihilistic Red Guard propaganda in the schools and media — how much reverse discrimination — how many campaigns for civil disarmament — how many managed-trade and world government schemes — how much ruinous foreign aid and intervention — how many expropriations in favor of Wall Street banks, Israel, and Third World dictatorships must we suffer before we understand that it is not for *us* that the elites are building their New World Order? We ordinary Americans in the 1990s have more in common with the ordinary people of Germany and Japan than we have with our masters in New York and Washington.

Many of the victims in Oklahoma City were not just Americans, of course, but friends and servants of the regime. Even if the deracinated elites would hesitate to murder American children no more than they would Lebanese children, wouldn't they flinch at killing their own servants?

I think they would not flinch. Regimes have always been willing to sacrifice some of their hapless minions for reasons of state.[7] Perhaps there would have been some resistance to a plan to butcher low-level nobodies at a facility on the Bicoasts. (Of course, that wouldn't have worked half as well for terroristic purposes, either.) But the bureaucrats and others who were targeted were mere *Heartlanders* — Okies, Velveeta eaters, K-mart shoppers, folks with unwashed accents, butts of Bicoastal jokes and ridicule. Almost all were undoubtedly Christians. In the eyes of New York and Washington, they were absolute nobodies from nowhere (although the media and other, more official spokesmen for the regime must make it seem that they were somebodies, for the benefit of the other nobodies in front of the tube).

I was relating to an acquaintance of mine, a 28-year veteran of the Central Government bureaucracy, the conspiratorial allegation that none of the "senior personnel" assigned to the Murrah building showed up for work the morning of the bombing. "Senior personnel!" he said, chuckling. "What senior personnel?" He said he doubted whether Murrah

housed anyone at all in the Senior Executive Service, let alone any important political appointees. "At most, you had a handful of GS-15s. In DC, a GS-15 doesn't even rate a reserved parking space."

Infantile Bromides

I no longer support mass murder, but I'm afraid millions of nice, friendly, peaceful-looking Americans acquiesce in it, without thinking much about it. Undoubtedly, they would have the murdering limited to war — the slaughter specially sanctified by statesmen. But we all should remember that we live in an era of undeclared wars, secret wars, and "moral equivalents" of war. We should pray that the statesmen of our own nation don't decide to make war on *us*.

And although it won't change anything in the bloody world around us, we might remember the simple moral teachings of the West we all learned as children, such as "Two wrongs don't make a right," "Innocent until proven guilty," "Spare the children," and "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Call them infantile bromides if you will, but they are central tenets of any decent civilization, and of any decent man.

Notes

1. See James J. Martin, "The Bombing and Negotiated Peace Questions in 1944," in *Revisionist Viewpoints: Essays in a Dissident Historical Tradition* (Colorado Springs, Colo.: Ralph Myles, 1971), pp. 11617. [Available from the IHR for $9.75, postpaid.]

   This revelatory essay describes the hate campaign mounted by the US and British regimes and their unofficial mouthpieces, designed to corrupt the American and British peoples so they would be ready to accept what Martin calls "the new barbarism." Before reading this essay, I had never heard of the Peace Now Movement (1943–1944).

2. David Irving, *Hitler's War: 1942–1945* (London: Macmillan, 1985 [1977]), p. 762. See also: David Irving, *Hitler's War and The War Path, 1933–1945* (London: Focal Point, 1991), p. 735.

3. I do not mean to minimize Chinese losses and suffering from other causes. John W. Dower, in *War Without Mercy: Race & Power in the Pacific War* (New York: Pantheon, 1986 [pp. 295–296]), suggests that a figure of nine million civilian deaths, from all causes, is a conservative estimate.

4. Douglas Botting, *From the Ruins of the Reich: Germany 1945–1949* (New York: Crown, 1985), p. 125.

5. D. Irving, *Hitler's War: 1942–1945* (London: 1985 [1977]), p. 771, and D. Irving, *Hitler's War* (London: Focal Point, 1991), p. 739.

   "Most of the [Dresden] victims were refugee women and children," writes Frederick J.P. Veale. The Allied "strategic air offensive," he reports, killed a total of 600,000 civilians in Germany. F.J.P. Veale, *Advance to Barbarism: The Development of Total Warfare* (Institute for Historical Review, 1993), pp. 191, 199.

6. *The Statistical History of the United States from Colonial Times to the Present,* introduction and user's guide by Ben J. Wattenberg (New York: Basic Books, 1976), p. 23.

7. Whoever carried out the bombing, we may be skeptical about the extent to which the Dark Suits considered it a threat to themselves and their agenda, given the fact that the Dow index not only closed at a record high on the day of the bombing but also set new highs on each of several days immediately thereafter.

The Bombardier's Song

Here's an example of how moral numbness can propagate factual error and, in effect, result in the Orwellian rectification of history. I heard recently on my local socialist radio station a locally produced "concert preview" for the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, which was scheduled to perform Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana." The announcer was recounting the life and career of the German composer. Reading from a prepared script, he informed us that Orff had been working at the *Guntherschule* in Munich, but that his work was interrupted in 1943 when the Nazis bombed the school.

Now, I found that statement remarkable, given the fact that Orff shared with Richard Strauss the distinction of being the Nazi regime's favorite contemporary composer. And oddly, none of my books on World War II reports a "Nazi" bombing of Munich in 1943. However, B.H. Liddell Hart, in his *History of the Second World War*, does report that the British Bomber Command perpetrated a major raid on Munich the night of October 7, 1943.

The scriptwriter whose presentation I heard was brought up to believe that whatever the Allies did was, by definition, good. Conversely, if a bad thing happened in World War II to something that, in his present context, he regards as good in this case, a music school the Nazis must have done it. Even if it was a Nazi music school!

— N. S.

Rights and Duties

"We are born into no right whatever but what has an equivalent and corresponding duty right alongside of it. There is no such thing on this earth as something for nothing. Whatever we inherit of wealth, knowledge or institutions from the past has been paid for by the labor and sacrifice of preceding generations."

— William Graham Sumner

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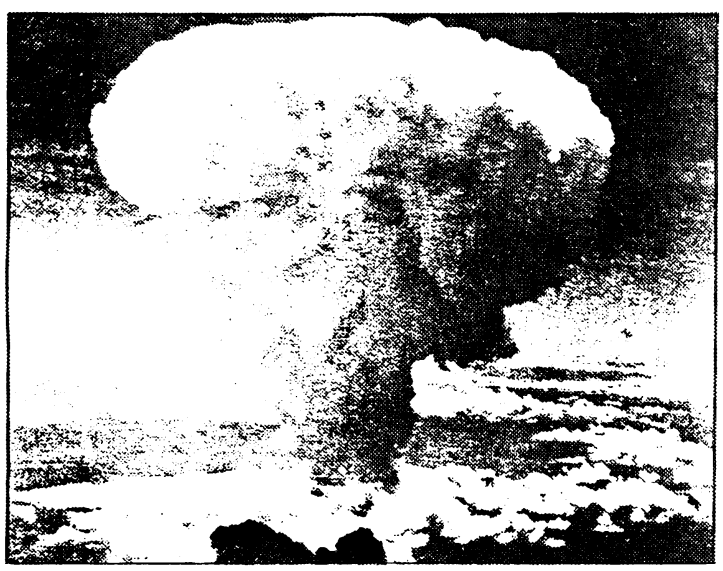

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Some Lessons After Fifty Years

JOSEPH SOBRAN

The Holocaust as Excuse

In a century marked by mass murders, something about the very term "the Holocaust" makes one uneasy. It has become a sort of political brand name, like "the Great Society" and "Contract with America." It serves a morbid sort of boosterism. When I hear it, I expect it to be followed by a pitch for Israel, and I am rarely disappointed.

Since the dethronement of Christianity, "Holocaust denial" has become the chief of heresies in the secularized West. I mean "heresy" literally: an opinion you can be jailed for professing. Some countries, including France, Germany, Canada, and of course Israel, have actually made it a *criminal offense* to express doubt of the standard version. How strange in the modern world, to ban opinion about a historical fact!

Yet there are people who are neither fanatic nor stupid nor insane nor mean-spirited who argue that it was never Hitler's purpose or policy to exterminate the Jews. Maybe not; they are far more informed on the subject than I care to be, and it never surprises me when the Zionist lobby lies or grossly exaggerates — or tries to suppress free discussion. No doubt the lobby would criminalize opinion here too if it could.

Are the Holocaust affirmers really as certain as they claim to be? Subversive thought! But when we are really sure of a historical fact, we don't force others to assent to it. We trust the truth to take care of itself. Most of us don't doubt that Napoleon invaded Russia, but we don't lose sleep over anyone who denies it. In fact we might start wondering about whether it really happened, not if a few eccentrics denied it, but if they were fiercely persecuted for doing so. Our curiosity would be piqued by the very fact that someone in power felt so threatened by doubt as to outlaw debate.

The Holocaust as a symbol doesn't date from World War II. The word was never used in those days. It dates from the late 1960s, when Jewish power reached its present height in Western politics, the universities, and the media. I see nothing sinister about Jews achieving power on the same terms as other people; what is sinister, though, is the attempt by a large number of Jews to use stealth, suppression, and slander to advance a furtive nationalism. The charge of anti-Semitism serves to obscure the difference between keeping your guard up against Jewish chauvinism and desiring to persecute people just for being Jewish.

Beyond that, the legitimacy of the entire post-constitutional US regime rests on the myth that World War II was a holy war against Evil, and wartime propaganda has hardly been qualified by sober second thoughts. And we should be suspicious of anyone who tries to bully us into agreement on any subject as we have been bullied on this one. (Besides, can anything repeated so often in *The New Republic* actually be true?)

But having said all this, I remember something from my own experience. I used to go to a deli in New York, where a little old Jewish woman would make me sandwiches for lunch. We never conversed: it was all smiles and thanks. But one day I noticed a tattoo on her wrist. I didn't ask her about it. It was her number. I had a good idea where she got it.

I've always kept her in mind as a touchstone. I've tried to imagine a man making his living tattooing numbers onto the wrists of men, women and children as if he were branding cattle. His occupation seems to me to imply a lot about the system he works for and its attitude toward the people it takes the liberty of marking so indelibly. If its design isn't to wipe them out, what is it?

My view of Hitler wouldn't be changed much if it transpired that he really only meant to enslave the

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"Holy War" first appeared in the May 18, 1995, issue of *The Wanderer*, a traditionalist Roman Catholic weekly. "The Holocaust as Excuse" and "The Winner" first appeared in the June 1995 issue of *Sobran's*.

Jews and that only a few hundred thousand, not five (sorry! six) million, had died under his care. I don't consider Stalin that much worse or Roosevelt that much better. They were all murderers who used the power of the state to destroy somewhat excessive numbers of innocent people.

Of course this is sacrilege. We are not supposed to think this way. On this subject, we are not supposed to think at all. We are supposed to repeat like tape recorders that the Nazi regime was "uniquely evil." But no evil in this old world is unique. There have always been massacres. Nowadays they are better organized, that's all. Anyway, right and wrong aren't contingent on historical fact. We didn't need modern monsters to teach us that murder is a bad thing. The murder of someone you love will teach you that, if you hadn't known it already, far more piercingly than millions of murders abroad.

But the Holocaust, in its full mythic sense of *the* uniquely evil event, has become vital to Israel as the justification for its very existence and the palliative for all its sins. It is hardly too much to say: No Holocaust, no Israel.

Suppose it were proved that Hitler had stopped at tattooing and forced labor and had had no policy of actually killing Jews. Would the West be so indulgent toward the treatment Israel metes out to its own minorities? Would it accept the Jewish claim to Palestine as legitimate at all? Obviously not. We have become accustomed to judging Israel as a sort of emergency survival measure for Jews, not as a normal state; and so we don't judge it by the same criteria as other states, which are expected to accord their citizens impartial treatment under law, or a reasonable approximation thereof.

The Holocaust is not a justification for injustice. There is no such thing. It has become, rather, the Grand Excuse for a condition of permanent abnormality, for perennial "emergency measures." Against the background of the Holocaust, Israel is allowed to treat non-Jews in ways that would cause uproar throughout the West if any state were to treat Jews in those same ways. It insists that Jews can be "safe" only if they have a place where they can practice what would be condemned as anti-Semitism if it were done to them. Yet Jews are *less* safe, more subject to violence in Israel than in countries where everyone has the same rights. But the violence that injustices to non-Jews provoke is cited to excuse even more injustices. Terrorist acts by Arabs are used to damn the Palestinian cause and even to prove that Arabs are essentially savage, but terrorist acts by Jews, or by the Israeli state itself, are not allowed to reflect on Jews — even though Israel has actually elected two prime ministers with terrorist pasts.

The distinction between justifications and excuses is vital here. Only just measures can be justified. Only wrongs need to be excused. And Israel's excuses are wearing thin. The murder of a Jew in Poland in 1943 doesn't excuse robbing an Arab of his land in 1995.

In all this Israel is the very model of a modern state. Most states have adopted similar excuses for enlarging their power. Ours has made old crimes against blacks the excuse for anti-white policies today. Socialism (sometimes under the alias "liberalism") treats all society as a standing emergency, to be corrected by giving the state what amount to eternal emergency powers. By now modern man hardly knows what it would mean to get back to normal.

Holy War

Bill Clinton chose to celebrate the 50th anniversary of V-E Day in Moscow. Highly appropriate, since the big winner of the war was the Soviet Union. In order to enhance his stature as a World Leader, Clinton is in fact lauding the blackest alliance in Western history.

The real significance of the war is buried in commemoration. We hear endlessly of the Nazis' victims, which now include 27 million Russians (up from Nikita Khrushchev's inflated 1959 claim of 20 million). We hear much less of the Communists' victims, whose numbers were greatly augmented when those heroic statesmen Roosevelt and Churchill allowed Stalin to claim much of Christendom as his share of the spoils, whereupon he launched a persecution that would have appalled Nero. The US and Britain also obligingly "repatriated" two million Slavic Christians, who returned to face certain death. (Many, knowing what awaited them, killed themselves on the way back.)

The legitimacy of liberalism rests on the myth that World War II vanquished evil from Europe. The tone of the current festivities implies that nothing much else happened. Liberals regard the war's chief result, the near-destruction of Christian civilization, as either incidental or positively good; either way, they don't care to talk about it in public. And so, just as [*New York Times* journalist] Walter Duranty denied the forced famine of Ukraine in the early 1930's, liberals maintain, to this day, virtual denial about postwar Communist crimes, while they incessantly harp on the war crimes of the Axis powers.

But there is no reason for Christians to join in keeping a silence that serves only the purpose of exculpating liberalism. They obscurely know that the liberal regime is their enemy. It is time to revise

British premier Churchill, American President Roosevelt and Soviet premier Stalin at the Yalta Conference in Soviet Crimea, February 1945. At this meeting the "Big Three" Allied coalition leaders approved Soviet rule over all of eastern and much of central Europe, repeated the demand for Germany's "unconditional surrender," agreed to dismember Germany, and resolved to establish a United Nations organization to insure the Allied powers' permanent global hegemony.

the history of the liberals' holy war. So far, most "history" conforms to official wartime propaganda.

Incidentally, Roosevelt went to absurd lengths to whip up war fever in America. His problem was that Americans didn't feel threatened by Hitler. So he warned of Nazi designs for "world conquest" (not mere regional aggression) and even tried to convince the country that the Nazis were penetrating South America, though most South Americans weren't especially captivated by the idea of Aryan supremacy. No wonder Newt Gingrich admires him.

Roosevelt smeared as "isolationism" the philosophy of the Founding Fathers, who of course took a dim view even of alliances with the Christian nations of Europe. It's not hard to guess what they would have thought of an alliance with a monstrous anti-Christian tyranny like the Soviet Union. It is all but forgotten now that Pius XI, in the years leading up to the war, strongly condemned both racialist nationalism and all cooperation with Communism.

The Winner

Joe Stalin is the guy you haven't heard mentioned much during the fiftieth anniversary commemorations of the end of World War II. Not fair, really, because he won the war. He helped start it, and he won it. Why deny this great statesman and conqueror his victory?

In conventional terms, the United States was also a great victor. Its global power increased immensely as a result of the war, which weakened and dismembered the old empires of Europe. That power endures, while the Soviet Union has ceased to exist at all. And it can be argued that Americans enjoy a higher degree of prosperity because their government won.

But though America may have won much of the world, it lost its soul. Its old Constitution was a casualty of the war; the freedom it allegedly fought for was diminished, not expanded, by both domestic and international postwar settlements. The ambiguous — and ruinous — ideal of equality, as under-

stood by Communists and liberals, replaced the ideal of liberty. The United States even undermined the civilization that had given it birth and sustained it. Hundreds of thousands of young Americans died to achieve this outcome.

This only begins to tell the story. The fruits of victory proved very perishable. And the net result of the war was infinitely worse than the most pessimistic isolationist had predicted.

By 1945 Stalin's already huge empire had expanded to include several vassal states in the Eastern regions of what had formerly been Christian Europe; by 1948, when he fell out with his wartime cronies to the West, he had a total of ten, not counting the new Communist regimes of Yugoslavia and Albania. The Communist program was to abolish not just "capitalism," but all independent institutions, above all the Church. (Curbing the influence of orthodox Christianity has also been a high priority of American liberalism.)

In 1949 Stalin had his own atomic bomb, which enabled him to menace the Western "democracies" in a way Hitler never had, never could, and never aspired to. For the first time, every American was directly vulnerable to foreign attack. Two oceans ceased to provide natural security. Nuclear weapons, like Soviet global power, sprang from the war itself. Americans in 1940 simply could not have imagined the danger they would live in, every moment, by 1950.

That is why the regimes of those countries still have to exaggerate the menace Hitler posed. If it ever sinks in with ordinary Christians that the war was a Pyrrhic victory for them, they will understand how they were betrayed by Roosevelt and Churchill.

The realization nearly came shortly after the war. That is what the McCarthy period was all about. If men at the top were helping Stalin all along, what had the little men gained by their sacrifices? Of Roosevelt's inner circle, only Alger Hiss was (in effect) convicted of treason, but his Soviet sympathies were clearly shared by other insiders like Harry Hopkins, Henry Wallace, and Harry Dexter White.

Even Whittaker Chambers never charged that Hiss gave away anything substantial, like nuclear secrets. Hiss had merely acted, in trivial ways, perhaps technically illegal, on the policies and propaganda of the whole Roosevelt administration concerning our heroic ally. How could you fault him for failing to foresee the postwar swerve? Communism was approved by "progressive" opinion, which still forgives Communists in ways it won't forgive Nazis, Fascists, or even McCarthy. The only Communist who isn't forgiven is Stalin himself, who "betrayed" his idealistic followers at home and abroad. (*The Jewish Encyclopedia* describes the years 1948-53 as "the black years," because it was then that Stalin turned against the Jews; presumably the years of the Ukrainian famine were "the sunny years.")

Alistair Cooke rightly spoke of "a generation on trial" in the Hiss case. The New Deal was permeated by Soviet sympathies from the start. This is evident not from the agents who were later exposed but from the Roosevelt Administration's open policies. It gave diplomatic recognition to the Soviet Union in 1933, as millions of Ukrainians starved to death, and it never included the USSR among the "aggressors" and "dictatorships" who were to be condemned and quarantined. It made only feeble objections to the Soviets' 1939 invasion of Poland, 1940 seizure of the Baltic states, and 1940 assault on Finland.

Moreover, the US alliance with the Soviets wasn't just a reluctant tactical alliance under emergency conditions. Roosevelt and his men had a dream: they saw the Soviets as partners in building a better postwar world. That was what the United Nations was all about, and Hiss was one of its founding fathers.

Joe McCarthy was never so bold as to implicate Roosevelt directly, specializing instead in "card-carrying Communists," but the import of his campaign was clear enough. The real target was pro-Communist "liberalism."

Then there was Yalta. Had Roosevelt been betrayed by Stalin, or had Poland — and the West itself — been betrayed by Roosevelt and Churchill? Those who have the greatest stake in the arrangements of the period jeer at "conspiracy theories," but the modern superstate regularly conspires against its subjects. It deceives and betrays them, in war and in peace, with its twin rationales: its claim of "national security" and its promise of "social security." It is completely parasitical on the ruled, yet it holds their allegiance by pretending to protect them from foreign foe and economic vicissitude alike. The sense of betrayal by rulers is often very strong in democracies, because of their fiction that the rulers and the ruled have the same interests; the masses are shocked when the rulers act on motives of their own.

Apart from its geopolitical consequence, Yalta was of a piece with such everyday policies as the state's constant, quiet debasement of its own currency by inflation. Modern rulers are not distinguished by their sense of honor toward those they rule. State control of currency (usually paper) and credit are a form of institutionalized betrayal. Inflation was once deemed criminal, like private counterfeiting; now it is accepted as a fact of life, and prostitute economists pretend to debate its causes.

McCarthy's concern was less philosophical and

more earthy. He wanted to get Communists out of sensitive positions in government. That might seem unexceptionable, but it wasn't.

Liberals reacted violently against him, on the pretext that he was smearing innocent people with reckless charges. The truth was that many liberals regarded actual Communists — their old allies and friends — as innocent people. In time they became fairly open about this, calling old Reds like Lillian Hellman "victims of McCarthyism" for having been exposed as Stalin's little helpers.

Privately, Roosevelt and Churchill hated each other far more than they hated Stalin, whom Roosevelt in fact rather liked and was willing to trust. Roosevelt was building an empire too; Churchill was losing the one entrusted to him and couldn't accept being reduced to America's sidekick. Neither cared in the least that Christian civilization was being torn apart — the end Popes Plus XI and XII had foreseen as they labored desperately to prevent the war from breaking out, with condemnations of both racialism and Communism.

And neither Roosevelt nor Churchill lamented the fate of Christians under Communism. Neither do our current political and opinion leaders, which is why it is still possible for them to celebrate World War II as "our" victory. Nor was the Communist torture of Christians and Christianity of interest to the major news media; they preferred commemorating Jewish suffering under Nazism long after they had ceased to report Christian suffering under Communism *while it was still occurring* (as it still occurs today in China). There has simply been a huge blackout of the subject.

Double standards always point to the buried truth. Liberal opinion is not only indifferent to Christian suffering but profoundly hostile to the idea of a Christian society, while it keenly feels Jewish pain and has no objection to a Jewish state. That is why Hitler remains the symbol of pure evil, while Stalin is only a roughneck. The happy liberal story line must avoid mentioning Stalin, just as it must avoid mentioning, for the same reasons, the dismembering of Christendom.

The American political universe is still defined by the official propaganda of World War II. Newt Gingrich parrots it as faithfully as Edward Kennedy. In public life it is still taboo to suggest that the greatest war in history was exactly what you might expect it to be: a terrible disaster for Christian civilization. Of course the West no longer speaks of itself, or thinks of itself, as "Christian civilization." That is not the least of the disaster.

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by Carlo Mattogno

Mattogno is a learned man in the mold of his ancestors of the Renaissance. He is meticulous and prolific; in the future he will be in the first rank of Revisionists. —Prof. Robert Faurisson

Jean-Claude Pressac's *Auschwitz: Technique and Operation of the Gas Chambers* was published in 1989 to resounding worldwide media hosannas. It was followed in 1993 by his second opus, *The Crematoria of Auschwitz: The Machinery of Mass Killing.*

Pressac's principal volume, more than 500 pages with hundreds of illustrations, promised conclusive evidence of the existence and use of homicidal gas chambers at Auschwitz. Headlines proclaimed that the revisionists were finally vanquished, that Pressac had proven what the immense resources of the Holocaust industry had failed to prove in more than 40 years.

But in the mad rush to herald the news, the pundits hadn't bothered to *read* the book, presuming that the French pharmacist had accomplished what his publisher—the Klarsfeld Foundation—claimed he had. He hadn't.

So Pressac's second volume was published, promising, in his own words, "*the definitive rebuttal of revisionist theories.*" This dog wouldn't hunt, either.

As you read ***Auschwitz: The End of a Legend*** you'll find out why. Here, Italian documents specialist Carlo Mattogno demolishes the boldest attempt to date—Pressac's back to back volumes—to answer the revisionist critique of the Auschwitz extermination story.

Mattogno shows how Pressac misinterpreted his own data in such a way as to assist not his fellow exterminationists, but the very revisionists he had set out defeat.

Mattogno demonstrates that Pressac's confused arguments confirm his ignorance of the structure and functioning of crematory ovens and gas chambers, and of the nature and use of the disinfectant Zyklon B; that Pressac's use of available statistics was arbitrary and largely fanciful, resulting in a *down-sizing* of the number of alleged victims; and that where information did not exist, Pressac simply invented it, often with mutually contradictory arguments in different parts of his thesis.

Mattogno's relentless deconstruction of Pressac's assertions and interpretations not only reveals the Holocaust Lobby hero's incompetence, it's a case study of the pathetic sloppiness the media can be counted on to overlook in the crusade against Holocaust Revisionism.

AUSCHWITZ: The End of a Legend
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Letters

Passing On Info

Congrats on your excellent use of available technology on the Internet to counter our traditional enemies. I've been spending the last half-hour saving your info to read and pass on later. Carry on the good work.

H. L.
South Africa

Ray of Light

I just want to thank and congratulate you for your excellent [Internet] web page [`http://www.kaiwan.com/~greg.ihr`]. What a ray of bright light. I found it in making various searches on the Internet for people who share my views. So far I have not been able to find anything comparable to your page.

Having just had access to the Internet for a couple of months, I'm very excited about it. Because it is a truly free avenue of communication, it must be scaring the pants off both the politicians and pressure groups which have so far done such a thorough job of controlling public opinion. The Internet offers a revolutionary opportunity to bypass governments and private controllers of the publishing and broadcasting worlds, which is exactly why every effort is going to be made to control it.

L. F.
Daytona Beach, Fla.

Irving Responds to Faurisson's Comment

Faurisson's letter [in the March–April 1995 *Journal*, pp. 46–47] is good and does not need much comment from me, other than that he and I will continue to disagree about the events of November 30, 1941, at Skiatowa, outside Riga [Latvia], which is when and where about a thousand Jews from a *Judentransport aus Berlin* ended up being liquidated despite Hitler's clear instructions to Himmler to the contrary.

As for the rest: yes, it is important to see each entry in Goebbels' diary in the overall context of all other entries on the same subject throughout the volumes. Only thus does a pattern emerge.

Remember: after 1936 the Goebbels' diary was being written specifically for publication 20 years after his death, that is, *ad usum delphicus*, though he states in one place that it will have to be sanitized first. Also remember that from July 1941 it is being dictated to a civil servant on a daily basis, not written personally in ink, which must have had an inhibiting, cramping effect on what Goebbels felt free to disclose.

David Irving
Key West, Florida

Evidence Ignored

David Irving has not done a service for historical revisionism with what he says about Dr. Goebbels in his Jan.–Feb. 1995 *Journal* presentation, which is based on his forthcoming biography.

In Irving's view, Goebbels was the man who was really responsible for the persecution of Jews and the alleged "extermination." Writes Irving:

> If we're looking for a culprit, if we're looking for a criminal behind the "final solution" or the "Holocaust," whatever it was, for the man who started it in motion, then it was undoubtedly Dr. Goebbels first and foremost. Not Julius Streicher, not Adolf Hitler, nor any of the other Nazis. Goebbels was the moving force, and the brain behind it in every sense of the word.

Such talk is ammunition for our "traditional enemies" (to borrow Irving's apt phrase).

It is unfortunate that Irving has rejected — unfairly, I believe — the remarkable work of historian Ingrid Weckert in her study on the "Crystal Night," *Flashpoint* [published by the IHR, and available for $8.75, postpaid].

She presents impressive evidence to show that Irving is wrong, at least about his characterization of Goebbels' role with the infamous November 1938 "Crystal Night" anti-Jewish violence. She shows that Goebbels was genuinely enraged by the consequences of the "Crystal Night" outburst, and therefore certainly did not plan it, or at least did not incite what actually happened.

Friedrich Christian, Prince of Schaumburg-Lippe, was a close adjutant to Goebbels. In his 1963 memoir (quoted in the foreword to Weckert's book) he describes an important meeting in the aftermath of "Crystal Night," at which he witnessed Goebbels angrily and loudly berate Berlin Police Chief Count Helldorff for the destruction.

Among the things Goebbels said to Helldorff:

> The whole business is outrageous. This is not the way to solve the Jewish problem, not by any means. Not this way. This only makes martyrs of them — and then? We have disgraced ourselves before the whole world, Helldorff ... and I? I am expected to bail us out of this idiocy, to iron everything out again with propaganda. An impossibility ...
>
> We could not possibly have done the opposing propaganda a greater service. Our people have killed a dozen Jews, but for this dozen we may have to pay some day with a million German soldiers.

Wilfred von Oven — who worked with Goebbels constantly, and often very closely, during the final two years of the war — contributes an enlightening foreword

to Weckert's book. While acknowledging that Goebbels hated Jews (as have so many others), he is absolutely convinced that Goebbels was sincere in what he said in fury to Helldorff.

Disturbing is Irving's use of such turns of phrase as "it's not difficult to imagine Dr. Goebbel's attitude," or "the way he may well have looked ..." Apart from the question of whether the conclusions that Irving draws from the diary are valid, one has the unpleasant feeling that he Irving may be trying to ingratiate himself with our enemies.

K. W.
Zierenberg, Germany

Recharged Batteries

I found the Twelfth IHR Conference deeply interesting, and hope to make a more positive contribution in future. I am so pleased to have met everyone there. I arrived back home with my batteries recharged, determined to redouble my efforts on behalf of revisionism.

I consider that the IHR's work on "Holocaustomania" to be the most important research currently underway anywhere. I was particularly moved by Professor Faurisson's appeal at the Conference to now go on the attack against those who have kept us on the defensive.

T. A.
London, England

Scholarship and Class

Just a brief note to let you know how much I enjoyed the entire [Twelfth IHR] Conference. I am a seasoned "conventioneer" and have had my share of high caliber events, both as a speaker and as an attendee. I have never seen such scholarship and class.

M. I.
San Diego, Calif.

Mussolini and Pareto

In his fine article in the Sept.–Oct. 1994 *Journal*, James Alexander mentions that Mussolini attended lectures by Vilfredo Pareto at the University of Lausanne, during the time that the future Italian premier was living in Switzerland and working mainly as a bricklayer.

In *My Autobiography* (p. 14), published in New York in 1928, Mussolini recalled that time:

> With a kind of passion, I studied social sciences. Pareto was giving a course of lectures in Lausanne on political economy. I looked forward to every one. The mental exercise was a change from manual labor. My mind leaped toward this change and I found pleasure in learning. For here was a teacher who was outlining the fundamental economic philosophy of the future.

E. Svedlund
Seattle, Wash.

Puffy Rhetoric

We should confront the nice words of Czech President Vaclav Havel in his Philadelphia speech, published in the Sept.– Oct. 1995 *Journal*.

Just a few weeks before he delivered that speech Havel declared that there would be no revision of the decrees of Eduard Benes, president of Czechoslovakia in the aftermath of World War II. Benes' decrees were the basis for the expropriation and brutal expulsion in 1945–1946 of more than three million ethnic Germans from the *Sudetenland* region (of whom more than 200,000 perished or were killed).

Thus, Havel's fine words are mere puffy rhetoric. I think it is a waste of time to mention them, or him.

E. S.
Salta, Argentina

Honorable Men

According to the paid advertisement by "Americans for Equal Justice" (March–April 1994 *Journal*, p. 23), "during World War II, young German men were unwillingly taken from their homes and drafted into the German army."

This statement is not only erroneous, I think, but contemptuous. Along with many thousands of volunteers from other European countries, the young German men knew very well why they had to fight, and for what they were fighting. They tried to protect their homelands and all of Europe from the onslaught of Communism.

We can never right a wrong on false assumptions. Only the truth can set us free, and only if every nation admits its deplorable part in conflicts can we start to build for the future.

M. H.
Hamilton, Ont.
Canada

Europe's Response to Soviet Communism

There was no "Holocaust" in the sense that it is usually portrayed — that is, a planned, systematic extermination of six million Jews. What did happen was explained by Princeton University professor Arno Mayer in his 1989 book *Why Did The Heavens Not Darken?: The "Final Solution" in History*. He shows that Nazi Germany's harsh repression of Europe's Jews arose from a mortal fear of Soviet Communism, and was based on the significant Jewish role in Communism. [See: M. Weber, "The Jewish Role in the Bolshevik Revolution and Russia's Early Soviet Regime," Jan.–Feb. 1994 *Journal*.]

With the introduction of Marxist Bolshevism onto the European continent, the nations of Europe were fighting for their very survival. Perceiving Bolshevism as an alien, largely Jewish import, these threatened nations felt the need to root out and expel the Jews.

Many of the evils afflicting our country today, including "multiculturalism" and "affirmative action," are simply Marxist policies under a different guise. Such socially destructive "progressive" polices are imposed on us without debate.

P. M.
Spokane, Wash.

Getting Angry

You must know that what you are saying can't be true.

My grandfather was at the concentration camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau [where] every day he saw the smog and smell from the crematorium ...

Why are you doing this? If you are a Nazi, be proud of what the Germans did. Stop being a hypocrite.

I am a Jew. I know *Mein Kampf*.

... Whatever you do, whatever you say, we are ready to eliminate all neo-Nazis. We have Israel, we have the best army. We are going to get support from the Blacks, Muslims, homosexuals and Latinos, because we have something in common. We are all hated by your organization, and we are loosing are patience.

We are getting very angry, and if your people don't stop this attitude at once, we will show our power and we shall eliminate you.

You have no right to insult such people as the Jewish Defense League and the B'nai B'rith ... Someday my Jewish brothers will wake up, and we will kill you one by one ... If the government does not do it, if Israel does not, believe me, we will take the law in our hands and kill you nazi bastards.

Juden uber alles!

R. Hershel [by Internet]
Anti-Nazi League
University of Miami
Florida

Christian Anti-Revisionism

Enclosed is a special "Holocaust" issue of *Israel My Glory*, a bimonthly published by "The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry." You will note the attack against the Institute for Historical Review and the *Journal* in the three-page article, "Denying the Dead: Holocaust Revisionism and a Response." This glossy magazine is a good example of the pro-Israel material put out some Christian organizations in the United States. I have stopped my support for this group because of its obvious bias and lack of interest in searching out the available truth.

S. W.
Carneys Point, N.J.

Wonderful Job

We are making headway educating the world about what really happened, and are all doing a wonderful job of just that. Keep it up and never stop.

An article in the Nov.–Dec. 1993 *Journal* (p. 24) reports on Moshe Peer's statements about killings of prisoners in gas chambers at the Bergen-Belsen camp. I served in the US Army during World War II; I was wounded in Belgium and have the Purple Heart medal. I saw Bergen-Belsen, and can confirm that there were no gas chambers there.

I also saw Eisenhower's death camps for German prisoners of war, or as he called them, "disarmed enemy forces." These camps were as James Bacque describes them in his book, *Other Losses*.

O. P.
Clinton, Ill.

Elie Wiesel

Having just finished reading the IHR leaflet by Dr. Faurisson about Elie Wiesel ("A Prominent False Witness"), I would like to thank you for confirming my skepticism of this man.

I first heard of him in 1985 when then-President Reagan was planning to visit a German military cemetery at Bitburg. There were many protests when it was learned that some Waffen SS soldiers were also buried there. One of the most important voices of protest came from Wiesel, who was presented on the major American television networks as an expert on the wartime role of the Waffen SS.

He spoke about atrocities supposedly committed by SS troops during the December 1944 "Battle of the Bulge." Everything he said about this matter was false, but because he was a concentration camp survivor, what he said was never questioned.

Because of Wiesel's lies, the President spent only a few minutes at the Bitburg ceremony. Relations between Germany and the United States were strained because of the controversy created by Wiesel and others like him.

I was very upset about this entire affair, and I tried to explain to friends that Wiesel did not know what he was talking about. My friends did not believe me until I showed them proof. I believe that the American people would have also agreed, if they had all the facts.

Pseudo-knowledge is a great danger.

I have always disapproved of certain people posing as experts about matters of which they have only a vague knowledge. Wiesel qualifies for a place at the top of the list. It is about time that the world sees this man for what he really is: just another person with opinions.

Again, I would like to thank all of you at the Institute for Historical Review for taking a realistic view of Wiesel.

B. D.
Garden City, Michigan

Essential Job

Everyone is entitled to my opinion, and mine is that you are doing an essential job. [Donation of $200 enclosed.] Best wishes!

A. B.
Madrid, Spain

Extortion Racket

You are on the right track with Holocaust revisionism. The Holocaust is the Number One revisionist issue of this century. It needs to be understood, dissected and exposed, so that its accompanying worldwide extortion racket can be broken.

Don't let up.

J. J.
Sterling Heights, Mich.

We welcome letters from readers. We reserve the right to edit for style and space. Write: Editor, P.O. Box 2739, Newport Beach, CA 92659.

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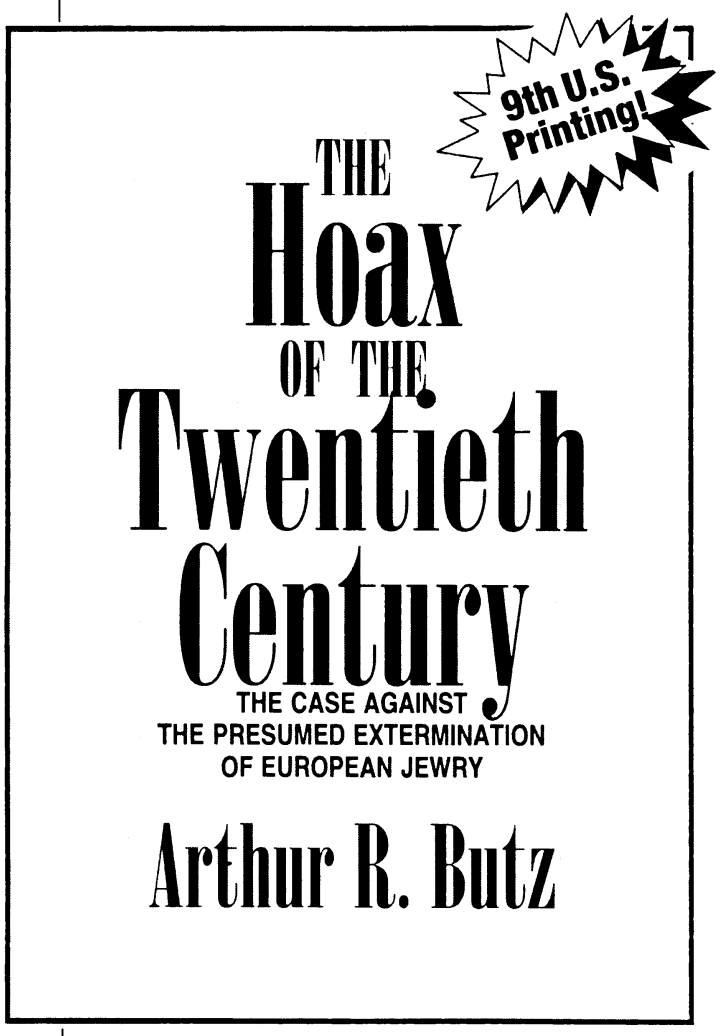
THE HOAX OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

THE CASE AGAINST THE PRESUMED EXTERMINATION OF EUROPEAN JEWRY



Yehuda Bauer and Prof. Moshe Davis agreed that there is a "recession in guilt feeling" over the Holocaust, encouraged by fresh arguments that the reported extermination of six million Jews during World War II never took place... "You know, it's not difficult to fabricate history," Davis added. —Chicago *Sun-Times*, Oct. 25, 1977

You can't discuss the truth of the Holocaust. That's a distortion of freedom of speech. The U.S. should emulate West Germany, which outlaws such public exercises. —Franklin Littell, Temple University. Quoted in: *Jerusalem Post*, weekly edition, Oct. 19-25, 1980

IN SPITE OF THE MANY IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGHS in Revisionist scholarship since it was first published in 1976, Dr. Butz' pathbreaking study remains unsurpassed as the standard scholarly refutation of the Holocaust extermination story.

In more than 400 pages of penetrating analysis and lucid commentary, he gives the reader a graduate course on the fate of Europe's Jews during the Second World War. He scrupulously separates the cold facts from the tonnage of stereotyped myth and propaganda that has served as a formidable barrier to the truth for half a century.

Chapter by solidly referenced chapter, he applies the scholar's rigorous technique to every major aspect of the Six Million legend, carefully explaining his startling conclusion that "the Jews of Europe were not exterminated and there was no German attempt to exterminate them."

Focusing on the postwar "war crimes trials," where the prosecution's evidence was falsified and secured by coercion and even torture, Dr. Butz re-examines the very German records so long misrepresented. Reviewing the demographic statistics which do not allow for the loss of the "Six Million," he concludes that perhaps a million Jews may have perished in the turmoil of deportation, internment and war. He re-evaluates the concept and technical feasibility of the legendary extermination "gas chambers."

Maligned by people who have made no effort to read it, denounced by those unable to refute its thesis, ***The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*** has sent shock waves through the academic and political world. So threatening has it been to the international Holocaust lobby that its open sale has been banned in several countries, including Israel, Germany and Canada.

In four important supplements contained in this edition (including his lecture presented to the Eleventh International Revisionist Conference, October, 1992) the author reports on key aspects of the continuing international Holocaust controversy.

Now in its ninth US printing, this semi-underground best seller remains the most widely read Revisionist work on the subject — must reading for anyone who wants a clear picture of the scope and magnitude of the historical cover-up of the age.

Dr. Arthur R. Butz was born and raised in New York City. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1965 he received his doctorate in Control Sciences from the University of Minnesota. In 1966 he joined the faculty of Northwestern University (Evanston, Illinois), where he is now Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences. Dr. Butz is the author of numerous technical papers. Since 1980 he has been a member of the Editorial Advisory Committee of *The Journal of Historical Review*, published by the Institute for Historical Review.

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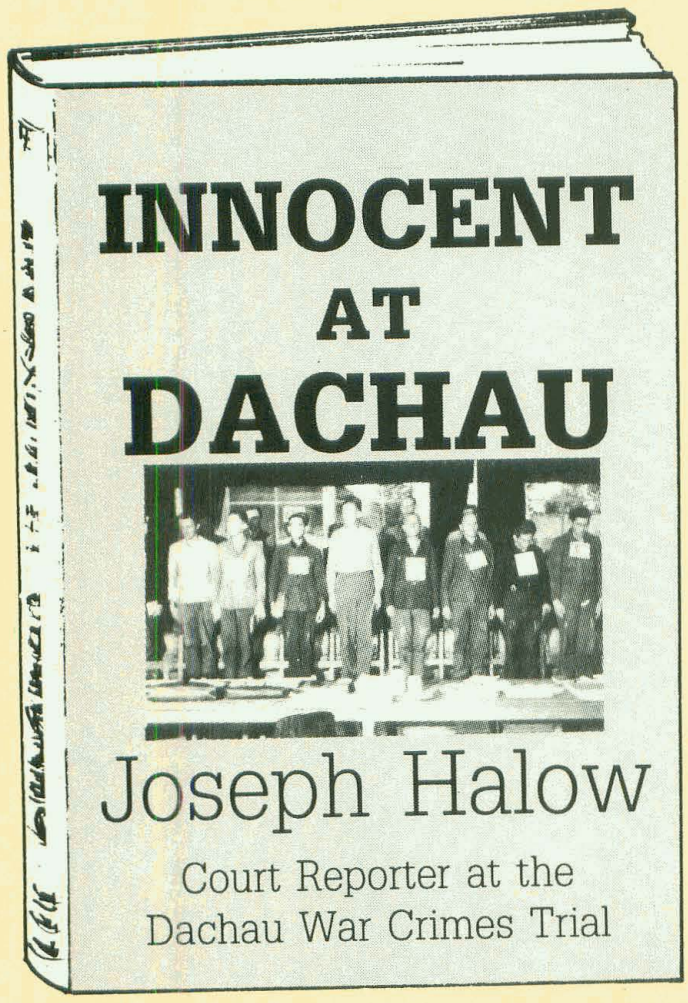
The Heart-warming, Infuriating, Informative, and Revisionist memoir that Dares to Tell the Truth About the Postwar Trials of the Germans

INNOCENT AT DACHAU

AMERICAN TEENAGER JOE HALOW was still a boy when he sailed to war-ravaged Germany in late 1946. The year he spent there, taking part in some of the most sensational of the war-crimes trials of the defeated Nazis, turned him into a man.

Innocent at Dachau is Joe Halow's account of his year in postwar Germany, above all his work as a court reporter during the U.S. Army courts-martial at Dachau. There Halow witnessed, recorded and transcribed some of the most gripping testimony from some of the most sensational trials of the postwar years: of SS guards from Buchenwald, Mauthausen, and Dora/Nordhausen; of the inmates who carried out their orders as kapos (prisoner trusties); and of German villagers who attacked and murdered downed American fliers in the last phase of the Allies' terrifying air war.



Armed with an ironclad faith in American righteousness when he arrived, young Halow soon saw the flaws and abuses in the trials: reliance on *ex post facto* law and broad conspiracy theories; abuse of prisoners during interrogation; and the shocking tolerance, even encouragement, of perjured testimony by concentration camp survivors. The teenaged American court reporter came to sympathize with the plight of the accused, particularly those convicted, sentenced or executed unjustly.

Innocent at Dachau is Joe Halow's story of his coming of age, of his loss of innocence in the Dachau courts. And it's the human drama of how he came to terms with his own anti-German feelings living and working in a Germany still heaped with rubble and ruled by the black market, in the shadow of the looming Iron Curtain and approaching Cold War.

Innocent at Dachau is also the story of how, four decades later, Joe Halow went back — back to the long-classified records of the Army's trials at Dachau where he found astounding confirmation from official sources of his own misgivings about the trials; and back to Germany for a moving visit with one of the German SS men Halow watched testify about his role at Nordhausen concentration camp.

Outspoken, informative, moving, ***Innocent at Dachau*** is a unique testimony to one American's quest for truth, understanding and honor, in a realm ruled even today by shibboleth and taboo — a book that deserves to be read, and read again.

Joseph Halow was born and raised in Altoona, Pennsylvania. After a brief stint in the U.S. Army following World War II, during which he served in Peking, China, Mr. Halow served as a court reporter at the U.S. Army war crimes trials at Dachau. Mr. Halow has had a long career in the export-import business, during which he headed an association that promoted the exportation of American grain. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of The George Washington University, Joseph Halow is the author of numerous articles on agricultural affairs, as well as a book, *U.S. Grain: The Political Commodity*. He lives near Washington, D.C.

TOP: The author at publisher's 1990 historical conference. **INSET**: Germany, 1946: The author transcribing his courtroom "take" for the record.

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by Joseph Halow
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